



February 2019

Stairway Partners Receives Six “Top Guns” Awards Including *Manager of the Decade*

We are pleased to announce that Stairway Partners has again been recognized for its investment performance by PSN with *Top Guns* status. Through the fourth quarter of 2018, four of our strategy composites received a total of six awards. Most notably, the Stairway Partners Tax-Managed Conservative Asset Allocation strategy composite earned the *Manager of the Decade* award within PSN’s separate account database in the Global/International Balanced Universe. 2018 is the fourth consecutive year that one or more of our strategy composites received this award for ten-year performance. Additionally, Stairway’s Moderate Asset Allocation Strategy earned a *Five Star* award within the Global/International Balanced Universe. Our Tax-Managed Growth strategy composite received *Five Star* awards in both the Global/International Balanced Universe and the ETF Global Balanced Universe. Lastly, our Growth strategy composite received a *Five Star* award in the ETF Global Balanced Universe and a *Four Star* award in the Global/International Balanced Universe.

The PSN separate account database is managed by Informa Investment Solutions and is the longest-running investment manager database in North America. For their *Top Guns* awards, PSN ranks thousands of separately managed portfolio strategies across dozens of universes. Both PSN’s ETF Global Balanced Universe and its Global/International Balanced Universe have a style benchmark which is comprised of 60% global equities and 40% global bonds.

The Global/International Balanced Universe included 389 distinct investment strategies. To qualify for the *Manager of the Decade* award, a strategy must have had returns that were greater than the style benchmark for the latest ten-year period, while also maintaining a standard deviation of returns (risk) that was less than the style benchmark. PSN then ranks those strategies by their ten-year return and designates the ten best as *Top Guns*. To qualify for *Four Star* or *Five Star* awards, a strategy must have achieved greater returns than the style benchmark for the latest three rolling three-year periods. The *Five Star* award also requires a strategy to have lower risk than the median strategy in the category. In both cases, *Top Guns* status is awarded to the ten strategies with the best three-year performance through the fourth quarter of 2018. For the ETF Global Balanced Universe which included 227 distinct investment strategies, only the top five performers qualify for *Top Guns* status in each category.

We are honored to once again receive recognition from PSN for the long-term performance of our portfolios. We firmly believe that our success is the result of our commitment to a disciplined investment process, which focuses on prudent policy development, long-term fundamental capital market analysis, and efficient implementation.

For more information, please email us at stairwaypartners@stairwaypartners.com or visit our website at www.stairwaypartners.com.