# HARBOR CONVERTIBLE SECURITIES FUND

BlueCove Limited

Subadvisor Since 03/01/2023

Total Net Assets – All Classes \$25,514,165 Fixed Income Assets: 96.14% Cash & Other Assets Less Liabilities: 3.86%

Benchmark Name: ICE BofA US Convertible Index

## **Portfolio Managers**







Benjamin Brodsky, CFA Michael Harper, CFA

Benoy Thomas, CF.

## **Investment Philosophy**

The Fund invests primarily in convertible securities of U.S. and non-U.S. corporate issuers. Convertible securities are "hybrid" securities that possess both fixed income and equity characteristics, and include corporate bonds, preferred stocks and other types of securities that are convertible into common stock or its equivalent value. While the Fund has broad discretion to invest in all types of convertible securities, the Fund focuses primarily on investments in convertible bonds. The Fund also focuses primarily on convertible securities of corporate issuers with debt rated below investment grade, commonly referred to as "high yield" or "junk bonds." The Fund invests primarily in U.S. dollar denominated securities; however the Fund may invest in securities denominated in other currencies.

## **CHARACTERISTICS & ALLOCATION**

As of 12/31/2024

Portfolio Characteristics							
	Portfolio	Benchmark					
Effective Duration	1.81	1.72					
Wtd. Avg. Maturity (yrs)	10.61	8.88					
Average Market Coupon	2.25	2.44					
Beta vs. Fund Benchmark	0.89						

Maturity						
	Portfolio %	Benchmark %				
0-1 yr	10.58	12.72				
1-3 yr	35.74	41.04				
3-5 yr	36.72	30.48				
5-7 yr	5.43	9.86				
7-10 yr	1.28	0.46				
10-20 yr	0.15	0.29				
20-30 yr	1.78	1.98				
Over 30 yr	4.25	3.16				

Economic Sectors								
	Portfolio %	Benchmark %						
Technology & Electronics	28.62	28.92						
Healthcare	12.23	12.95						
Utility	10.02	10.44						
Financial Services	7.90	7.65						
Leisure	7.29	7.15						
Real Estate	6.69	4.45						
Capital Goods	4.20	6.29						
Media	3.05	3.59						
Banking	3.04	3.05						
Basic Industry	2.05	2.84						
Total	85.10	87.33						

Credit Quality						
·	Portfolio % Bend	hmark %				
US Govt/Agency	0.00	0.00				
AAA	0.00	0.00				
AA	0.00	0.00				
A	0.78	1.10				
BBB	17.40	18.18				
BB	5.44	4.31				
В	0.62	1.80				
CCC	0.00	0.21				
CC	0.00	0.00				
С	0.00	0.00				
Below C	0.00	0.00				
Non-Rated	71.70	74.38				



#### **PERFORMANCE**

As of 12/31/2024

## **Average Annual Returns**

Share Class	Ticker	CUSIP	3 Months	YTD	1 Yr.	3 Yr.	5 Yr.	10 Yr.	Since Inception	Inception Date	Net Expense Ratio %	Gross Expense Ratio %
Institutional	HACSX	411512734	3.95%	12.90%	12.90%	1.91%	7.44%	6.76%	6.34%	05/01/11	0.71	1.08
Investor	HICSX	411512718	3.77%	12.35%	12.35%	1.54%	7.03%	6.37%	5.95%	05/01/11	1.07	1.44
Retirement	HNCVX	411512387	3.97%	12.88%	12.88%	1.98%	7.51%	6.84%	6.39%	03/01/16	0.63	1.00
ICE BofA US Convertible Index			3.38%	11.14%	11.14%	0.65%	9.66%	9.07%	9.07%	05/01/11		

#### MANAGER COMMENTARY

As of 12/31/2024

"A third of fund managers ended the year expecting a global no-landing scenario, where growth remains strong but higher-than-target inflation persists."

BlueCove Limited

#### **Market in Review**

Risk-asset performance was muted during the fourth quarter of 2024, with U.S. equities higher by just over ~2% and U.S. high yield flat, as interest rates trended higher. The yield on 10-year U.S. Treasury bonds climbed nearly 0.85%, as markets anticipated a more hawkish U.S. Federal Reserve ("Fed") on the back of increased inflation expectations toward quarter-end. After the U.S. presidential election, market pricing and flows thematically embraced the prospect of deregulation-enhancing earnings growth, while the expectation of tax cuts and "America-first" initiatives, backed by the threat of tariffs, were a tailwind for U.S. dollar strength. At the same time, geopolitical risk remained heightened, with the ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East. Spikes in volatility during the quarter were supportive of our security selection focus.

#### **Portfolio Performance**

During the fourth quarter of 2024, the Harbor Convertible Securities Fund (Institutional Class, "Fund") returned 3.95%, outperforming its primary benchmark, ICE BofA US Convertible Index, which returned 3.38%.

Returns from security selection were positive, driven by names in the Information Technology, Industrials, and Consumer Discretionary sectors, alongside positive returns from sector positioning. Sentiment, valuation, and fundamental insights all drove outperformance. The strongest returns came in the medium- and high-delta convertibles.

Retirement Class shares commenced operations on March 1, 2016. The performance attributed to the Retirement Class shares prior to that date is that of the Institutional Class shares. Performance prior to March 1, 2016 has not been adjusted to reflect the lower expenses of Retirement Class shares. During this period, Retirement Class shares would have had returns similar to, but somewhat higher than, Institutional Class shares due to the fact that Retirement Class shares represent interests in the same portfolio as Institutional Class shares but are subject to lower expenses.

Expense ratio information is as of the Fund's current prospectus, as supplemented. Gross expenses are the Fund's total annual operating expenses. The net expense ratios for this fund are subject to a contractual management fee waiver and/or expense limitation agreement, excluding interest expense and acquired fund fees and expenses (if any), through 02/28/2025.

Performance data shown represents past performance and is no guarantee of future results. Past performance is net of management fees and expenses and reflects reinvested dividends and distributions. Past performance reflects the beneficial effect of any expense waivers or reimbursements, without which returns would have been lower. Investment returns and principal value will fluctuate and when redeemed may be worth more or less than their original cost. Returns for periods less than one year are not annualized. Current performance may be higher or lower and is available through the most recent month end at harborcapital.com or by calling 800-422-1050.

## MANAGER COMMENTARY

As of 12/31/2024

## **Underweights and Overweights**

The Fund seeks to be broadly neutral in duration, yield curve, and equity-delta exposure versus the benchmark. The largest sector positions were an overweight to Financials and an underweight to Information Technology. Since a large portion of the convertible bond universe is not rated, the Fund does not target a specific credit quality. Risk continues to be focused on security selection. The Fund is well matched on delta exposures versus the benchmark. Further, we seek to invest only in index-eligible securities, U.S. dollar securities, and do not emphasize country selection versus the benchmark.

#### Outlook

Credit markets ended 2024 with tight valuations, underpinned by institutional investor views of low global recession risk and prospective earnings growth, following a year of corporate profit expansion and rising corporate margins. We think the principal risk for the new year is that the Goldilocks scenario — that of a soft landing coupled with renewed economic vigor from resurgent personal consumption, alongside a long-dormant capital expenditure cycle — is not realized.

We see one threat to the execution of the soft landing to be the procyclical fiscal policy that has supported the outlook for growth. In the U.S., this optimism has been at loggerheads with monetary policy focused on reining in inflation.

Another potential trigger for market turbulence is the impact of protectionism on global trade. We think that markets may be underestimating the degree of the U.S. president's tariff ambitions and the global response. An increase in market volatility can be a positive backdrop for convertible bond returns as an asset class.



#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION



#### **Risks**

All investments involve risk including the possible loss of principal. Fixed income securities fluctuate in price in response to various factors, including changes in interest rates, changes in market conditions and issuer-specific events, and the value of your investment in the Fund may go down. There is a greater risk that the Funds will lose money because they invest in below- investment grade fixed income securities and unrated securities of similar credit quality (commonly referred to as "high-yield securities" or "junk bonds"). These securities are considered speculative because they have a higher risk of issuer default, are subject to greater price volatility and may be illiquid. The market for convertible securities is less liquid than the market for non-convertible corporate bonds. There are limitations inherent in every quantitative model. The value of securities selected using quantitative analysis can react differently to issuer, political, market, and economic developments than the market as a whole or securities selected using only fundamental analysis. Because the Funds may invest in securities of foreign issuers, an investment in the Funds is subject to special risks in addition to those of U.S. securities. These risks include heightened political and economic risks, greater volatility, currency fluctuations, higher transaction costs, delayed settlement, possible foreign controls on investment, possible sanctions by government bodies of other countries and less stringent investor protection and disclosure standards of foreign markets.

#### **Benchmarks**

The ICE BofA US Convertible Index is a market-capitalization weighted index that tracks the performance of publicly issued US dollar denominated convertible securities of US companies. Convertible securities where the underlying is a basket of equities qualify for inclusion in the index, as do mandatory and convertible preferred securities. This unmanaged index does not reflect fees and expenses and is not available for direct investment.

#### **Disclosures**

All data except for top holdings, performance, and yields is provided by the subadvisor.

Credit quality ratings for the underlying securities of the portfolio are composite ratings calculated by ICE Data Indices, LLC ("ICE") and based on the simple averages of ratings from Moody's, S&P, and Fitch. If a security rating is unavailable from ICE, composite ratings calculated by Bloomberg Financial L.P. ("BFLP") and based on the simple averages of ratings from security's Moody's, S&P, Fitch, and DBRS, are used. The composite rating from ICE is calculated by assigning a numeric equivalent to the ratings in each agency's scale. The average of the numeric equivalents for each agency that rates a bond is rounded to the nearest integer and then converted back to an equivalent composite rating using a scale that ranges from AAA (highest) to D (lowest). If only two of the designated agencies rate a bond, the composite rating is based on an average of the two. Likewise, if only one of the designated agencies rates a bond, the composite rating is based on that one rating. For the composite rating from BFLP, the rating agencies are evenly weighted when calculating the composite. It is calculated by taking the average of the existing ratings, rounded down to the lower rating in case the composite is between two ratings. A composite will not be generated if the bond is rated by only one of the four rating agencies. Ratings range from AAA (highest) to D (lowest). Mortgages: Short term and long-term ratings are used to generate a composite. The composite ratings are not intended to be a credit opinion. Unrated securities are not rated by the national ratings agencies stated above. Ratings, which are subject to change, apply to the creditworthiness of the issuers of the underlying securities and not to the Fund or its shares. Totals may not sum to 100% due to the exclusion of certain assets and liabilities.

Views expressed herein are drawn from commentary provided to Harbor by the subadvisor and may not be reflective of their current opinions or future actions, are subject to change without prior notice, and should not be considered investment advice.

This information should not be considered as a recommendation to purchase or sell a particular security. The weightings, holdings, industries, sectors, countries, and returns mentioned may change at any time and may not represent current or future investments.

As a result of changing market conditions, total net asset levels, expenses and other statistics may change at any time and may differ from those shown.

The total amount shown for sector, industries, or country holdings may be greater than 100% because of the inclusion of derivatives and the collateral securities supporting those instruments.

Sector allocations are determined using the Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS), which is a service of Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) and Standard & Poor's (S&P).

Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of a fund before investing. To obtain a summary prospectus or prospectus for this and other information, visit harborcapital.com or call 800-422-1050. Read it carefully before investing.

Distributed by Harbor Funds Distributors, Inc.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION



#### **Definitions**

Beta is a measure of systematic risk, or the sensitivity of a fund to movements in the benchmark. A beta of 1 implies that the expected movement of a fund's return would match that of the benchmark used to measure beta.

Duration is a commonly used measure of the sensitivity of the price of a debt security, or the aggregate market value of a portfolio of debt securities, to change in interest rates. Securities with a longer duration are more sensitive to changes in interest rates and generally have more volatile prices than securities of comparable quality with a shorter duration.

Effective duration is the sensitivity of a bond's price against the benchmark yield curve.

Weighted Average Market Capitalization: The average size of the companies in a portfolio or index as measured by the market value of outstanding shares.

Delta is the theoretical estimate of how much an option's value may change given a \$1 move up or down in the underlying security. The Delta values range from -1 to +1, with 0 representing an option where the premium barely moves relative to price changes in the underlying stock.