

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Shareholder Commentary September 30, 2017

To Our Shareholders,

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund (GWSIX) was +3.7%, net of expenses, in the third quarter that ended September 30, 2017, bringing the year-to-date return to +17.1%.

During the quarter, multiple headlines including North Korean missile tests, Charlottesville, terror attacks in Europe, hurricanes, earthquakes, and the German election kept investors tied to the news.

Nevertheless, equity markets remained relatively calm and ultimately finished on a strong note, as the initial details of a tax plan emerged from Washington D.C.

During the quarter, we completely exited positions in Alere and Akorn, realizing significant profits despite above average volatility during the holding periods.

Shareholders may recall that we made our first investment in Alere, a global leader in rapid point-of-care diagnostics, in 2014. The Fund had almost 6% of its assets in Alere, when the company announced in March 2016 that it agreed to be acquired by Abbott Labs for \$56 per share in cash, a roughly 60% premium to our cost basis.

Subsequent to the announcement, Alere and Abbott began an 18-month period of posturing and renegotiating that cost the Fund substantial performance. While the deal closed in early October at a revised price of \$51, the situation has reinforced the notion that merger arbitrage is a challenging investment strategy best pursued by others.

Rather than squeezing the last nickel from an investment, we have determined that the risk / reward is better when identifying and owning good businesses with improving fundamentals, particularly if those companies are trading at discounts of 50% or more to Private Market Value.

September 30 marked the end of the Fund's fiscal year. For shareholders that are taxable, we anticipate paying a nominal year-end distribution of 2%-3% in November. Unlike ETFs, open-end mutual funds are in the unfortunate position of distributing all realized gains and income, although shareholders have the opportunity to reinvest at the reduced NAV.

Entering the fourth quarter, the Focus Five Fund had 31 positions, with the top 10 representing 53% of AUM. Relative to the Russell 2000 index, which is trading at almost 22x PE, its highest valuation since 2001, the Fund's top 10 positions are trading at very attractive multiples. In fact, the top 10 have an average 30% upside to our 2018 Private Market Value estimates.

In other words, we believe the Focus Five Fund represents a unique opportunity to invest in a concentrated portfolio of attractively valued stocks, with potential near-term catalysts.

We added several new ideas to the portfolio in recent weeks, including HD Supply (1.9% of net assets as of September 30, 2017), Synchrony Financial (1.8%), Hewlett Packard Enterprise (0.6%) and Liberty Formula One (2.1%).

We also had a cash position of 8.5% at the end of the quarter, providing dry powder to add to high conviction positions in the event a long-overdue market correction surfaces.

Liberty Formula One (FWONA) stands to benefit from several tailwinds, including inflation in sports media rights, a potentially longer race calendar, and better monetization of sponsorship, hospitality, merchandising, and digital assets. To pursue these opportunities, Liberty has brought in a new management team that will also seek structural changes that could improve on-track competitiveness and substantially raise the brand value of F1. We estimate the EBITDA can grow from \$492 million this year to \$810 million by 2020, at which time shares could be worth in the mid \$60s.

Contributors to Performance

Contributors to performance during the quarter included Herc Holdings (2.2%) (0.61% contribution), O'Reilly Automotive (2.0%) (0.50%), Take-Two Interactive (1.3%) (0.44%) and Post Holdings (2.8) (0.37%).

Herc Holdings, an equipment rental supplier with approximately 280 branches primarily in the U.S. and Canada, was spun-off from Hertz in June 2016. The equipment rental business is exposed to construction, industrial (refineries, manufacturing), government entities/contractors, remediation firms, and infrastructure.

Herc has now recorded five consecutive quarters of year-over-year price increases, with continuing improved demand for construction equipment, as well as oil and gas end markets. The company also announced the sale-leaseback of 44 locations, which will improve liquidity.

We believe that the introduction of infrastructure legislation and disaster recovery and remediation efforts from recent natural disasters will continue to drive earnings growth. The industry also stands to benefit from consolidation. Herc is trading at just 6.5x 2018 EBITDA, and has a Private Market Value approaching \$80 in 2019.

Take-Two Interactive continues to generate strong investment performance for the Fund, which has an average cost basis of approximately \$16 per share (a 5-bagger so far!).

While the Grand Theft Auto series has surpassed expectations with increased recurrent in-game spend and new content for players, multiple other franchises continue to perform well. NBA 2K18 on Playstation 4 recently received a Metacritic score of 89, making it one of the highest rated games and the highest rated sports game currently. The company has multiple levers to pull between E-sports and mobile, as well as release of new games like Red Dead, and the eventual announcement of a new Grand Theft Auto.

Post Holdings has also been a long-term generator of performance, up approximately 135% on an average cost basis. POST has executed a number of successful bolt-on acquisitions, including a recently announced deal to purchase Bob Evans Farms (NASDAQ: BOBE), a company focused on potato products and vegetable based side dishes, for \$1.65 billion. The acquisition is expected to close in the first quarter of 2018 and should be immediately accretive, as well as adding \$25mm annual run rate cost synergies by the third fiscal year. This acquisition provides POST with a more substantial position in the refrigerator at the grocery store, an area that is growing at a faster rate than the center of the store, and increased strength for foodservice.

Detractors from Performance

Detractors included Newell Brands (4.8% of net assets as of September 30, 2017) (-0.80% detraction), NuVasive (5.9%) (-0.77%) and Edgewell Personal Care (5.2%) (-0.24%).

NuVasive is the third largest company in the \$9 billion spine surgery market, and has a comprehensive portfolio for minimally invasive surgery. NuVasive continues to take market share from competitors, while at the same time driving operating margin improvement towards 25%.

The company also recently launched the new LessRay imaging platform which will significantly reduce radiation exposure for the operating room team. The stock gradually declined from \$80 in July to \$55 at the end of the quarter, providing us a compelling buying opportunity. We believe that the company is a likely acquisition candidate and calculate an \$87 Private Market Value estimate based on 16x 2018 EBITDA.

In sum, we continue to believe your investment in this actively managed, concentrated best ideas portfolio will help you achieve risk-adjusted equity returns over the next several years, and look forward to providing you future updates.

Top Ten Holdings (Percent of Net Assets)
September 30, 2017

Bioscrip Inc.	8.9%	Newell Brands Inc.	4.8%
MGM Resorts International	7.0%	Maple Leaf Foods Inc.	4.1%
Liberty Global PLC	6.7%	Alphabet Inc.	3.9%
NuVasive, Inc.	5.9%	Blackhawk network Holdings Inc.	3.6%
Edgewell Personal Care Co.	5.2%	Gogo Inc.	3.2%

Note: The views expressed in this Shareholder Commentary reflect those of the Portfolio Manager only through the end of the period stated in this Shareholder Commentary. The Portfolio Manager's views are subject to change at any time based on market and other conditions. The information in this Portfolio Manager's Shareholder Commentary represents the opinions of the individual Portfolio Manager and is not intended to be a forecast of future events, a guarantee of future results, or investment advice. Views expressed are those of the Portfolio Manager and may differ from those of other portfolio managers or of the Firm as a whole. This Shareholder Commentary does not constitute an offer of any transaction in any securities. Any recommendation contained herein may not be suitable for all investors. Information contained in this Shareholder Commentary has been obtained from sources we believe to be reliable, but cannot be guaranteed.

Minimum Initial Investment – \$1,000

The Fund's minimum initial investment for regular accounts is \$1,000. There are no subsequent investment minimums. No initial minimum is required for those establishing an Automatic Investment Plan. Additionally, the Fund and other Gabelli/GAMCO Funds are available through the no-transaction fee programs at many major brokerage firms. The Fund imposes a 2% redemption fee on shares sold or exchanged within seven days after the date of purchase. See the prospectus for more details.

www.gabelli.com

Please visit us on the Internet. Our homepage at www.gabelli.com contains information about GAMCO Investors, Inc., the Gabelli/GAMCO Mutual Funds, IRAs, 401(k)s, current and historical quarterly reports, closing prices, and other current news. We welcome your comments and questions via e-mail at info@gabelli.com.

The Fund's daily NAV is available in the financial press and each evening after 7:00 PM (Eastern Time) by calling 800-GABELLI (800-422-3554). Please call us during the business day, between 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM (Eastern Time), for further information.

You may sign up for our e-mail alerts at www.gabelli.com and receive early notice of quarterly report availability, news events, media sightings, and mutual fund prices and performance.

e-delivery

We are pleased to offer electronic delivery of Gabelli fund documents. Direct shareholders of our mutual funds can elect to receive their Annual and Semiannual Reports, Manager Commentaries, and Prospectuses via e-delivery. For more information or to sign up for e-delivery, please visit our website at www.gabelli.com.

Multi-Class Shares

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund Class AAA Shares are no-load shares offered directly through selected broker/dealers. Class A, Class C, and Class T Shares are targeted to the needs of investors who seek advice through financial consultants. Class I Shares are available solely to certain institutions, directly through the Fund's distributor or brokers that have entered into selling agreements specifically with respect to Class I Shares. The Board of Directors determined that expanding the types of Fund shares available through various distribution options will enhance the ability of the Fund to attract additional investors.

Comparative Results

Average Annual Returns through September 30, 2017 (a)(b)

	Quarter(c)	1 Year(c)	3 Year(c)	Since (1/1/12)(c)	5 Year	10 Year	Since Inception (12/31/02)
Class I (GWSIX)	3.66%	8.11%	2.15%	10.67%	8.92%	5.69%	8.29%
Class AAA (GWSVX)	3.54	7.88	1.89	10.39	8.67	5.43	8.11
Russell 2500 Index	4.74	17.79	10.60	14.59(d)	13.86	8.19	11.58
Russell 1000 Index	4.48	18.54	10.63	15.28	14.27	7.55	9.89
MSCI AC World Index Ex-U.S.	6.25	20.15	5.19	8.38	7.45	1.74	9.03
Blended Index	5.04	18.61	9.23	13.15	12.31	6.39	10.51
Class A (GWSAX)	3.58	7.87	1.90	10.40	8.67	5.44	8.13
With sales charge (e)	(2.38)	1.67	(0.09)	9.27	7.39	4.80	7.69
Class C (GWSCX)	3.33	7.04	1.13	9.57	7.85	4.65	7.34
With contingent deferred sales charge (f) ..	2.33	6.04	1.13	9.57	7.85	4.65	7.34
Class T (GWSTX)	3.54	7.88	1.89	10.92	8.67	5.43	8.11
With sales charge (g)	0.95	5.18	1.04	10.43	8.12	5.16	7.92

In the current prospectuses dated January 27, 2017, the expense ratios for Class AAA, A, C, I, and T Shares are 1.42%, 1.42%, 2.17%, 1.17%, and 1.42%, respectively. Class AAA and Class I Shares have no sales charge. The maximum sales charge for Class A Shares, Class C Shares, and Class T Shares is 5.75%, 1.00%, and 2.50%, respectively.

- (a) Returns represent past performance and do not guarantee future results. Total returns and average annual returns reflect changes in share price, reinvestment of distributions, and are net of expenses. Investment returns and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate. When shares are redeemed, they may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data presented. Visit www.gabelli.com for performance information as of the most recent month end. Returns would have been lower had the Adviser not reimbursed certain expenses of the Fund. The Fund imposes a 2% redemption fee on shares sold or exchanged within seven days of purchase. Performance returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized. Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of the Fund before investing. The prospectuses contain information about these and other matters and should be read carefully before investing. To obtain a prospectus, please visit our website at www.gabelli.com. The Class AAA Share NAVs are used to calculate performance for the periods prior to the issuance of Class I Shares on January 11, 2008 and Class T Shares on July 5, 2017. The actual performance of Class I Shares would have been higher due to lower expenses associated with this class of shares. The actual performance of the Class T Shares would have been lower due to the additional fees and expenses associated with this class of shares. The Russell 2500 Index is a market capitalization weighted index of 2,500 U.S. traded small and mid capitalization stocks. The Russell 1000 Index is a market capitalization weighted index of 1,000 U.S. traded large capitalization stocks. The Morgan Stanley Capital International All Country World Index excluding the U.S. (MSCI ACWI Ex-U.S.) is a market capitalization weighted index of small, mid, and large capitalization stocks across developed and emerging markets, excluding U.S. stocks. The Blended Index consists of 50% Russell 2500 Index, 25% Russell 1000 Index, and 25% MSCI ACWI Ex-U.S. Index. Dividends are considered reinvested. You cannot invest directly in an index.
- (b) The Fund's fiscal year ends September 30.
- (c) On January 1, 2012, began operating under its current name.
- (d) Russell 2500 Index performance is as of December 31, 2011.
- (e) Performance results include the effect of the maximum 5.75% sales charge at the beginning of the period.
- (f) Assuming payment of the 1% maximum contingent deferred sales charge imposed on redemptions made within one year of purchase.
- (g) Performance results include the effect of the maximum 2.50% sales charge at the beginning of the period.

THE GABELLI FOCUS FIVE FUND
One Corporate Center
Rye, NY 10580-1422

Portfolio Manager Biography

Daniel M. Miller has been the portfolio manager of The Gabelli Focus Five Fund since the inception of the investment strategy on January 1, 2012. He is also a Managing Director of GAMCO Investors, Inc. Mr. Miller joined the firm in 2002 after graduating magna cum laude with a degree in finance from the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida.

Gabelli Equity Series Funds, Inc.
THE GABELLI FOCUS FIVE FUND

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Net Asset Value per share available daily
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GABELLI
FUNDS

THE GABELLI FOCUS FIVE FUND

Shareholder Commentary
September 30, 2017

This report is submitted for the general information of the shareholders of The Gabelli Focus Five Fund. It is not authorized for distribution to prospective investors unless preceded or accompanied by an effective prospectus.

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Annual Report — September 30, 2017

To Our Shareholders,

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2017, the net asset value (“NAV”) per Class I Share of The Gabelli Focus Five Fund increased 8.1% compared with the Fund’s benchmark, the Blended Index, which increased 18.6%. The Blended Index consists of 50% of the Russell 2500 Index, 25% of the Russell 1000 Index, and 25% of the MSCI AC World Ex-U.S. Index. See page 3 for additional performance information.

Enclosed are the financial statements, including the schedule of investments, as of September 30, 2017.

Performance Discussion (Unaudited)

The Focus Five Fund seeks to provide a high level of capital appreciation. Under normal circumstances, the Fund will invest in a concentrated portfolio of twenty-five to thirty-five equity securities. The Fund could potentially invest up to 50% of its net assets in five securities that represent the largest, and thus the highest conviction, positions.

As a Fund with a concentrated portfolio of holdings, stock selection is an important element of performance as the Fund is driven more by the results of the companies selected rather than the movement of the overall market.

The post election rally of 2016 continued into the first quarter of 2017, with the U.S. equity market setting all-time highs. The so called “Trump Rally” was fueled by the potential for increased fiscal stimulus, lower corporate and individual taxes, and deregulation. Robust hiring, falling unemployment, and firming wage growth opened the door for the Federal Reserve to raise short term interest rates for the third time since the financial crisis. Outside the U.S., markets continue to digest the populist upheavals that have occurred not only in America, but around the globe.

Stocks performed strongly during the first half of 2017 with the Russell 2500 Index and Russell 1000 Index rising 5.97% and 9.27%, respectively, and the MSCI AC World Ex-U.S. Index increasing by 14.45%. The Federal Reserve continued tapping the brakes on the third round of its quantitative easing by raising the Federal Reserve Funds rate to a range of 1.0%-1.25% in June 2017. The Federal Reserve indicated it would begin shrinking its balance sheet later this year and current expectations are for three additional increases in each of 2018 and 2019 which would put the Federal Reserve Funds rate at 3.0%, still well below its prior peak.

The U.S. stock market advanced to record highs in September, with the Russell 2500 Index and Russell 1000 Index both in positive territory for the eighth consecutive quarter. Economic indicators continued to point upward around the world, with low inflation, falling unemployment, and rising consumer spending all contributing to the stock market’s rise. The Trump administration’s policies came back into focus during the quarter with the announcement of a deal to extend the debt ceiling and the release of a highly anticipated tax reform blueprint.

Some of the better performing investments during the fiscal year were MGM Resorts International (7.0% of net assets as of September 30, 2017), Delphi Automotive plc (2.2%) and Take-Two Interactive Software Inc. (1.3%). These positions contributed approximately 5.0% to the year’s return. Delphi Automotive’s strength largely came after announcing the tax-free spin-off of its Powertrain segment. Take-Two Interactive has been successful in increasing recurrent in-game spending by consumers, which allows the company to generate

EBITDA after the initial sale of a new title. Investor confidence remains intact after a very successful NBA 2K launch, anticipation of the new Red Dead release in the first half of next year, and continued success with GTA V and GTA online.

Investments that detracted from performance during the fiscal year were Inventure Foods Inc. (1.6%), and Advance Auto Parts Inc. (no longer held at September 30, 2017). These two positions offset the performance by approximately (2.9%) to the year's return. Inventure Foods commenced a strategic and financial review in July 2016, whereby the company subsequently sold off its Frozen Foods business, and ultimately the remainder of the company albeit at below market valuation. Advance Auto Parts underperformed due to headwinds facing the automotive aftermarket industry, characterized by margin pressure and heightened inventory levels.

We appreciate your confidence and trust.

Comparative Results

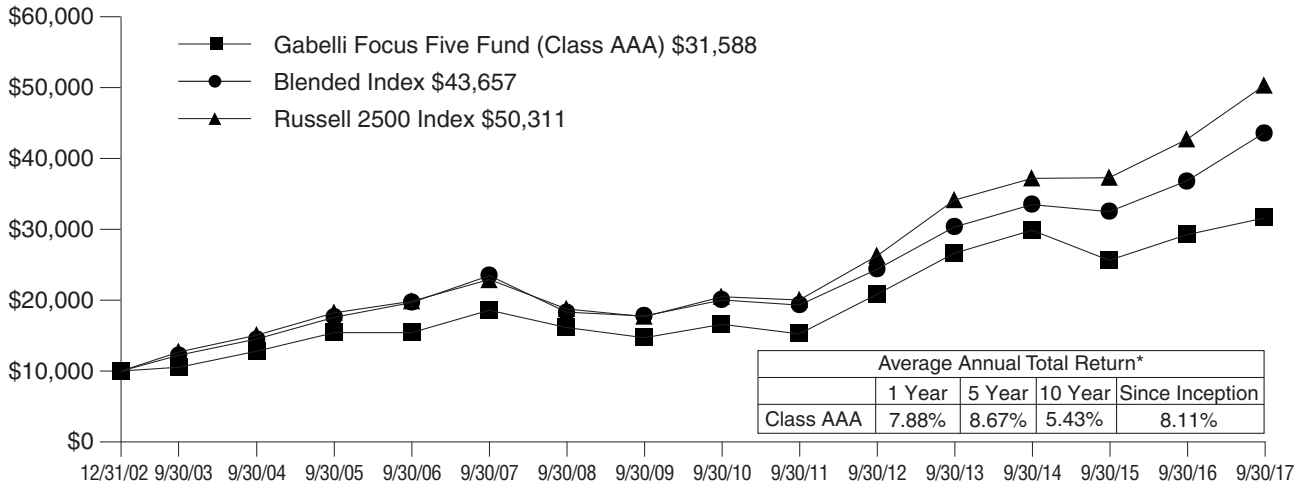
Average Annual Returns through September 30, 2017 (a)(b) (Unaudited)

	1 Year(c)	3 Year(c)	5 Year(c)	Since January 1, 2012(c)	10 Year	Since Inception (12/31/02)
Class I (GWSIX)	8.11%	2.15%	8.92%	10.67%	5.69%	8.29%
Class AAA (GWSVX)	7.88	1.89	8.67	10.39	5.43	8.11
Russell 2500 Index	17.79	10.60	13.86	14.59(d)	8.19	11.58
Russell 1000 Index	18.54	10.63	14.27	15.28	7.55	9.89
MSCI AC World Ex-U.S. Index	20.15	5.19	7.45	8.38	1.74	9.03
Blended Index	18.61	9.23	12.31	13.15	6.39	10.51
Class A (GWSAX)	7.87	1.90	8.67	10.40	5.44	8.13
With sales charge (e)	1.67	(0.09)	7.39	9.27	4.80	7.69
Class C (GWSCX)	7.04	1.13	7.85	9.57	4.65	7.34
With contingent deferred sales charge (f)	6.04	1.13	7.85	9.57	4.65	7.34
Class T (GWSTX)	7.88	1.89	8.67	10.39	5.43	8.11
With sales charge (g)	5.18	1.04	8.12	9.90	5.16	7.92

In the current prospectuses dated January 27, 2017, as amended July 5, 2017, the expense ratios for Class AAA, A, C, I, and T Shares are 1.42%, 1.42%, 2.17%, 1.17%, and 1.42%, respectively. See page 11 for the expense ratios for the year ended September 30, 2017. Class AAA and Class I Shares have no sales charge. The maximum sales charge for Class A, Class C, and Class T Shares is 5.75%, 1.00%, and 2.50%, respectively.

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- (b) The Fund's fiscal year ends September 30.
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- (d) Russell 2500 Index performance is as of December 31, 2011.
- (e) Performance results include the effect of the maximum 5.75% sales charge at the beginning of the period.
- (f) Assuming payment of the 1% maximum contingent deferred sales charge imposed on redemptions made within one year of purchase.
- (g) Performance results include the effect of the maximum 2.50% sales charge at the beginning of the period.

**COMPARISON OF CHANGE IN VALUE OF A \$10,000 INVESTMENT IN
THE GABELLI FOCUS FIVE FUND CLASS AAA, THE BLENDED INDEX, AND THE RUSSELL 2500 INDEX
(Unaudited)**



* Past performance is not predictive of future results. The performance tables and graph do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on fund distributions or the redemption of fund shares.

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Disclosure of Fund Expenses (Unaudited)

For the Six Month Period from April 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017 **Expense Table**

We believe it is important for you to understand the impact of fees and expenses regarding your investment. All mutual funds have operating expenses. As a shareholder of a fund, you incur ongoing costs, which include costs for portfolio management, administrative services, and shareholder reports (like this one), among others. Operating expenses, which are deducted from a fund's gross income, directly reduce the investment return of a fund. When a fund's expenses are expressed as a percentage of its average net assets, this figure is known as the expense ratio. The following examples are intended to help you understand the ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in your Fund and to compare these costs with those of other mutual funds. The examples are based on an investment of \$1,000 made at the beginning of the period shown and held for the entire period.

The Expense Table below illustrates your Fund's costs in two ways:

Actual Fund Return: This section provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use this section to help you to estimate the actual expenses that you paid over the period after any fee waivers and expense reimbursements. The "Ending Account Value" shown is derived from the Fund's **actual** return during the past six months, and the "Expenses Paid During Period" shows the dollar amount that would have been paid by an investor who started with \$1,000 in the Fund. You may use this information, together with the amount you invested, to estimate the expenses that you paid over the period.

To do so, simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number given for your Fund under the heading "Expenses Paid During Period" to estimate the expenses you paid during this period.

Hypothetical 5% Return: This section provides information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based on the Fund's actual expense ratio. It assumes a hypothetical annualized return of 5% before expenses during the period shown. In this

case – because the hypothetical return used is **not** the Fund's actual return – the results do not apply to your investment and you cannot use the hypothetical account value and expense to estimate the actual ending account balance or expenses you paid for the period. This example is useful in making comparisons of the ongoing costs of investing in the Fund and other funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in shareholder reports of other funds.

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only and do not reflect any transactional costs such as sales charges (loads), redemption fees, or exchange fees, if any, which are described in the Prospectus. If these costs were applied to your account, your costs would be higher. Therefore, the 5% hypothetical return is useful in comparing ongoing costs only, and will not help you determine the relative total costs of owning different funds. The "Annualized Expense Ratio" represents the actual expenses for the last six months and may be different from the expense ratio in the Financial Highlights which is for the year ended September 30, 2017.

	Beginning Account Value 04/01/17	Ending Account Value 09/30/17	Annualized Expense Ratio	Expenses Paid During Period*
The Gabelli Focus Five Fund				
Actual Fund Return				
Class AAA	\$1,000.00	\$1,085.40	1.39%	\$ 7.27
Class A	\$1,000.00	\$1,085.30	1.39%	\$ 7.27
Class C	\$1,000.00	\$1,080.60	2.14%	\$11.16
Class I	\$1,000.00	\$1,086.00	1.14%	\$ 5.96
Class T**	\$1,000.00	\$1,067.50	1.43%	\$ 3.56
Hypothetical 5% Return				
Class AAA	\$1,000.00	\$1,018.10	1.39%	\$ 7.03
Class A	\$1,000.00	\$1,018.10	1.39%	\$ 7.03
Class C	\$1,000.00	\$1,014.34	2.14%	\$10.81
Class I	\$1,000.00	\$1,019.35	1.14%	\$ 5.77
Class T	\$1,000.00	\$1,017.90	1.43%	\$ 7.23

* Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio for the last six months multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by the number of days in the most recent fiscal half year (183 days), then divided by 365.

** Class T Shares use a beginning account value date of 07/05/17, and Class T Share expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio for the period since inception multiplied by the number of days since inception (88 days), then divided by 365.

Summary of Portfolio Holdings (Unaudited)

The following table presents portfolio holdings as a percent of net assets as of September 30, 2017:

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Cable and Satellite	13.6%	Building and Construction	3.8%
Food and Beverage.....	10.3%	Equipment and Supplies	3.3%
Consumer Products.....	10.0%	Telecommunications	3.2%
Health Care Equipment and Services.....	8.9%	Entertainment.....	1.3%
U.S. Government Obligations	7.7%	Semiconductors	1.0%
Hotels and Gaming	7.0%	Retail	0.9%
Financial Services	6.6%	Business Services.....	0.0%*
Computer Software and Services... ..	6.4%	Other Assets and Liabilities (Net)... ..	0.6%
Health Care Equipment and Supplies.....	5.9%		<u>100.0%</u>
Energy and Utilities	5.4%		
Automotive: Parts and Accessories .	4.1%		

* Amount represents less than 0.05%.

The Fund files a complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-Q. Shareholders may obtain this information at www.gabelli.com or by calling the Fund at 800-GABELLI (800-422-3554). The Fund's Form N-Q is available on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov and may also be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 800-SEC-0330.

Proxy Voting

The Fund files Form N-PX with its complete proxy voting record for the twelve months ended June 30, no later than August 31 of each year. A description of the Fund's proxy voting policies, procedures, and how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities is available without charge, upon request, by (i) calling 800-GABELLI (800-422-3554); (ii) writing to The Gabelli Funds at One Corporate Center, Rye, NY 10580-1422; or (iii) visiting the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

Portfolio Manager Biography

Daniel M. Miller has been the portfolio manager of The Gabelli Focus Five Fund since inception of the investment strategy on January 1, 2012. He is also a Managing Director of GAMCO Investors, Inc. Mr. Miller joined the Firm in 2002 and graduated magna cum laude with a degree in finance from the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida.

We have separated the portfolio manager's commentary from the financial statements and investment portfolio due to corporate governance regulations stipulated by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. We have done this to ensure that the content of the portfolio manager's commentary is unrestricted. The financial statements and investment portfolio are mailed separately from the commentary. Both the commentary and the financial statements, including the portfolio of investments, will be available on our website at www.gabelli.com.

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Schedule of Investments — September 30, 2017

Shares	Cost	Market Value	Shares	Cost	Market Value		
COMMON STOCKS — 91.7%							
Automotive: Parts and Accessories — 4.1%							
35,000	Delphi Automotive plc	\$ 2,277,650	\$ 3,444,000	95,000	Synchrony Financial.....	\$ 2,726,551	\$ 2,949,750
15,000	O'Reilly Automotive Inc.†.....	2,675,910	3,230,550			8,697,868	10,526,766
		4,953,560	6,674,550	Food and Beverage — 10.3%			
Building and Construction — 3.8%							
167,673	Armstrong Flooring Inc.†.....	2,936,197	2,640,850	557,274	Inventure Foods Inc.†.....	3,027,505	2,613,615
70,000	Herc Holdings Inc.†.....	2,552,037	3,439,100	241,500	Maple Leaf Foods Inc.....	3,977,406	6,582,580
		5,488,234	6,079,950	70,000	Mondelēz International Inc., Cl. A.	2,968,493	2,846,200
Business Services — 0.0%							
3,200	Gerber Scientific Inc., Escrow†(a).....	0	0	50,000	Post Holdings Inc.†.....	1,664,675	4,413,500
Cable and Satellite — 13.6%							
80,000	DISH Network Corp., Cl. A†.....	4,397,512	4,338,400			11,638,079	16,455,895
59,001	EchoStar Corp., Cl. A†.....	2,267,246	3,376,627	Health Care Equipment and Services — 8.9%			
330,000	Liberty Global plc, Cl. C†.....	9,269,761	10,791,000	5,180,977	BioScrip Inc.†.....	11,193,423	14,247,687
93,001	Liberty Media Corp.- Liberty Formula One, Cl. A†....	3,033,270	3,393,606	170,000	NuVasive Inc.†.....	10,621,388	9,428,200
		18,967,789	21,899,633	Health Care Equipment and Supplies — 5.9%			
Computer Software and Services — 6.4%							
6,500	Alphabet Inc., Cl. C†.....	3,864,903	6,234,215	Hotels and Gaming — 7.0%			
60,000	Hewlett Packard Enterprise Co....	814,014	882,600	343,086	MGM Resorts International.....	6,489,634	11,181,173
740,000	Internap Corp.†.....	1,788,872	3,219,000	Retail — 0.9%			
		6,467,789	10,335,815	65,000	Macy's Inc.....	1,422,100	1,418,300
Consumer Products — 10.0%							
115,000	Edgewell Personal Care Co.†.....	8,512,493	8,368,550	Semiconductors — 1.0%			
180,000	Newell Brands Inc.....	8,258,339	7,680,600	58,710	Integrated Device Technology Inc.†.....	1,040,045	1,560,512
		16,770,832	16,049,150	Telecommunications — 3.2%			
Energy and Utilities — 5.4%							
200,000	Patterson-UTI Energy Inc.....	3,966,493	4,188,000	430,000	Gogo Inc.†.....	4,091,093	5,078,300
975,000	Weatherford International plc†....	4,317,086	4,465,500	TOTAL COMMON STOCKS.....			
		8,283,579	8,653,500			121,089,325	146,939,981
Entertainment — 1.3%							
20,000	Take-Two Interactive Software Inc.†.....	322,239	2,044,600	Principal Amount			
Equipment and Supplies — 3.3%							
85,000	HD Supply Holdings Inc.†.....	2,640,260	3,065,950	\$12,328,000	U.S. GOVERNMENT OBLIGATIONS — 7.7%		
175,000	Mueller Water Products Inc., Cl. A.....	2,001,413	2,240,000	U.S. Treasury Bills, 0.992% to 1.147%††, 10/26/17 to 02/08/18(b).....			
		4,641,673	5,305,950		12,300,137	12,302,070	
Financial Services — 6.6%							
130,200	Blackhawk Network Holdings Inc.†.....	4,077,093	5,702,760	TOTAL INVESTMENTS BEFORE OPTIONS WRITTEN — 99.4%... \$133,389,462			
582,067	Och-Ziff Capital Management Group LLC, Cl. A.....	1,894,224	1,874,256	OPTIONS WRITTEN — (0.0)% (Premiums received \$59,037).....			
				(40,000)			
						Other Assets and Liabilities (Net) — 0.6%.....	
						1,016,618	
						NET ASSETS — 100.0%.....	
						\$160,218,669	

- (a) Security is valued using significant unobservable inputs and is classified as Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy.
- (b) At September 30, 2017, \$1,200,000 of the principal amount was pledged as collateral for options written.
- † Non-income producing security.
- †† Represents annualized yield at date of purchase.

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund Schedule of Investments (Continued) — September 30, 2017

As of September 30, 2017, exchange traded options written outstanding were as follows:

Description	Number of Contracts	Notional Amount	Exercise Price	Expiration Date	Market Value
EXCHANGE TRADED CALL OPTIONS WRITTEN — (0.0)%					
Internap Corp.	1,000	\$435,000	\$4.00	10/20/17	<u>\$40,000</u>
TOTAL EXCHANGE TRADED CALL OPTIONS WRITTEN					<u>\$40,000</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Statement of Assets and Liabilities September 30, 2017

Assets:	
Investments, at value (cost \$133,389,462)	\$159,242,051
Deposit at brokers	96,135
Receivable for investments sold	2,417,493
Receivable for Fund shares sold	326,713
Dividends receivable	39,938
Prepaid expenses	25,516
Total Assets	<u>162,147,846</u>
Liabilities:	
Call options written (premiums received \$59,037) ...	40,000
Payable to custodian	2,424
Payable for investments purchased	1,071,945
Payable for Fund shares redeemed	569,302
Payable for investment advisory fees	131,766
Payable for distribution fees	41,606
Payable for accounting fees	11,250
Other accrued expenses	60,884
Total Liabilities	<u>1,929,177</u>
Net Assets	
(applicable to 11,185,459 shares outstanding) ...	<u>\$160,218,669</u>
Net Assets Consist of:	
Paid-in capital	\$137,937,328
Accumulated net investment loss	(1,300,974)
Accumulated net realized loss on investments, written options, and foreign currency transactions ..	(2,289,311)
Net unrealized appreciation on investments	25,852,589
Net unrealized appreciation on written options	19,037
Net Assets	<u>\$160,218,669</u>
Shares of Capital Stock, each at \$0.001 par value:	
Class AAA:	
Net Asset Value, offering, and redemption price per share (\$22,542,175 ÷ 1,543,033 shares outstanding; 100,000,000 shares authorized) ...	<u>\$14.61</u>
Class A:	
Net Asset Value and redemption price per share (\$29,391,131 ÷ 1,991,452 shares outstanding; 50,000,000 shares authorized)	<u>\$14.76</u>
Maximum offering price per share (NAV ÷ 0.9425, based on maximum sales charge of 5.75% of the offering price)	<u>\$15.66</u>
Class C:	
Net Asset Value and offering price per share (\$37,146,787 ÷ 2,914,926 shares outstanding; 50,000,000 shares authorized)	<u>\$12.74(a)</u>
Class I:	
Net Asset Value, offering, and redemption price per share (\$71,137,546 ÷ 4,735,977 shares outstanding; 50,000,000 shares authorized) ...	<u>\$15.02</u>
Class T:	
Net Asset Value , offering and redemption price per share (\$1,030.11 ÷ 70.52 shares outstanding; 50,000,000 shares authorized) ...	<u>\$14.61</u>
Maximum offering price per share (NAV ÷ 0.975, based on maximum sales charge of 2.50% of the offering price)	<u>\$14.98</u>

(a) Redemption price varies based on the length of time held.

Statement of Operations For the Year Ended September 30, 2017

Investment Income:	
Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes of \$20,110)	\$ 528,432
Interest	95,309
Other income*	2,036
Total Investment Income	<u>625,777</u>
Expenses:	
Investment advisory fees	1,807,163
Distribution fees - Class AAA	63,519
Distribution fees - Class A	84,662
Distribution fees - Class C	433,893
Distribution fees - Class T	1
Shareholder services fees	111,580
Registration expenses	68,614
Accounting fees	45,000
Shareholder communications expenses	31,073
Custodian fees	19,794
Legal and audit fees	19,392
Directors' fees	6,777
Interest expense	533
Miscellaneous expenses	19,973
Total Expenses	<u>2,711,974</u>
Less:	
Expenses paid indirectly by broker (See Note 6)	<u>(2,749)</u>
Net Expenses	<u>2,709,225</u>
Net Investment Loss	<u>(2,083,448)</u>
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments, Written Options, and Foreign Currency:	
Net realized gain on investments	3,184,056
Net realized gain on written options	376,962
Net realized gain on foreign currency transactions	262
Net realized gain on investments, written options, and foreign currency transactions	<u>3,561,280</u>
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation: on investments	7,392,955
on written options	12,828
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investments and written options	<u>7,405,783</u>
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain on Investments, Written Options, and Foreign Currency	
	<u>10,967,063</u>
Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations	<u>\$ 8,883,615</u>

* The Fund received a reimbursement of custody expenses paid in prior years.

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

	<u>Year Ended September 30, 2017</u>	<u>Year Ended September 30, 2016</u>
Operations:		
Net investment loss	\$ (2,083,448)	\$ (3,085,327)
Net realized gain/(loss) on investments, written options, and foreign currency transactions	3,561,280	(571,284)
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investments and written options	<u>7,405,783</u>	<u>37,905,931</u>
Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations	<u>8,883,615</u>	<u>34,249,320</u>
Distributions to Shareholders:		
Net realized gain		
Class AAA	(353,970)	—
Class A	(461,898)	—
Class C	(646,935)	—
Class I	<u>(968,550)</u>	<u>—</u>
Total Distributions to Shareholders	<u>(2,431,353)</u>	<u>—</u>
Capital Share Transactions:		
Class AAA	(11,975,448)	(9,685,248)
Class A	(15,635,332)	(20,369,724)
Class C	(21,925,719)	(19,956,810)
Class I	(35,455,294)	(87,459,731)
Class T	1,000	—
Net Decrease in Net Assets from Capital Share Transactions	<u>(84,990,793)</u>	<u>(137,471,513)</u>
Redemption Fees	<u>1,604</u>	<u>2,568</u>
Net Decrease in Net Assets	<u>(78,536,927)</u>	<u>(103,219,625)</u>
Net Assets:		
Beginning of year	<u>238,755,596</u>	<u>341,975,221</u>
End of year (including undistributed net investment income of \$0 and \$0, respectively)	<u>\$160,218,669</u>	<u>\$ 238,755,596</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Financial Highlights

Selected data for a share of capital stock outstanding throughout each year:

Year Ended September 30	from Investment Operations			Distributions			Ratios to Average Net Assets/ Supplemental Data							
	Net Asset Beginning of Period	Net Investment Loss (a)(b)	Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	Total from Investment Operations	Net Realized Gain on Investments	Total Distributions	Redemption Fees (b)(c)	Net Asset Value End of Period	Total Return †	Net Assets End of Period (in 000's)	Net Investment Loss (a)	Expenses Net of Waivers/ Reimburse- ments	Expenses Before Waivers/ Reimburse- ments	Portfolio Turnover Rate
Class AAA														
2017	\$13.70	\$(0.15)	\$ 1.21	\$ 1.06	\$(0.15)	\$(0.15)	\$0.00	\$14.61	7.88%	\$ 22,542	(1.08)%	1.43%	1.43%(d)	77%
2016	12.00	(0.14)	1.84	1.70	—	—	0.00	13.70	14.17	33,695	(1.11)	1.42	1.42(d)	60
2015	15.22	(0.12)	(1.81)	(1.93)	(1.29)	(1.29)	0.00	12.00	(14.11)	38,960	(0.83)	1.37	1.37(d)	73
2014	13.72	(0.09)	1.75	1.66	(0.16)	(0.16)	0.00	15.22	12.15	57,565	(0.58)	1.38	1.38	94
2013	11.11	(0.14)	3.13	2.99	(0.38)	(0.38)	0.00	13.72	27.74	50,275	(1.05)	1.54(e)	1.54(e)	69
Class A														
2017	\$13.84	\$(0.15)	\$ 1.22	\$ 1.07	\$(0.15)	\$(0.15)	\$0.00	\$14.76	7.87%	\$ 29,391	(1.08)%	1.43%	1.43%(d)	77%
2016	12.12	(0.14)	1.86	1.72	—	—	0.00	13.84	14.19	43,775	(1.10)	1.42	1.42(d)	60
2015	15.36	(0.12)	(1.83)	(1.95)	(1.29)	(1.29)	0.00	12.12	(14.11)	57,987	(0.83)	1.37	1.37(d)	73
2014	13.85	(0.09)	1.76	1.67	(0.16)	(0.16)	0.00	15.36	12.11	105,369	(0.59)	1.38	1.38	94
2013	11.21	(0.14)	3.16	3.02	(0.38)	(0.38)	0.00	13.85	27.76	192,157	(1.05)	1.54(e)	1.54(e)	69
Class C														
2017	\$12.06	\$(0.22)	\$ 1.05	\$ 0.83	\$(0.15)	\$(0.15)	\$0.00	\$12.74	7.04%	\$ 37,147	(1.83)%	2.18%	2.18%(d)	77%
2016	10.64	(0.21)	1.63	1.42	—	—	0.00	12.06	13.35	57,796	(1.85)	2.17	2.17(d)	60
2015	13.73	(0.20)	(1.60)	(1.80)	(1.29)	(1.29)	0.00	10.64	(14.74)	70,274	(1.58)	2.12	2.12(d)	73
2014	12.49	(0.18)	1.58	1.40	(0.16)	(0.16)	0.00	13.73	11.25	87,443	(1.31)	2.13	2.13	94
2013	10.22	(0.22)	2.87	2.65	(0.38)	(0.38)	0.00	12.49	26.80	55,865	(1.79)	2.29(e)	2.29(e)	69
Class I														
2017	\$14.05	\$(0.11)	\$ 1.23	\$ 1.12	\$(0.15)	\$(0.15)	\$0.00	\$15.02	8.11%	\$ 71,138	(0.83)%	1.18%	1.18%(d)	77%
2016	12.27	(0.11)	1.89	1.78	—	—	0.00	14.05	14.51	103,490	(0.85)	1.17	1.17(d)	60
2015	15.50	(0.09)	(1.85)	(1.94)	(1.29)	(1.29)	0.00	12.27	(13.90)	174,754	(0.58)	1.12	1.12(d)	73
2014	13.94	(0.05)	1.77	1.72	(0.16)	(0.16)	0.00	15.50	12.39	318,785	(0.30)	1.13	1.13	94
2013	11.26	(0.11)	3.17	3.06	(0.38)	(0.38)	0.00	13.94	28.00	110,170	(0.79)	1.29(e)	1.29(e)	69
Class T(f)														
2017	\$14.18	\$(0.03)	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.43	—	—	—	\$14.61	3.03%	\$ 1	(0.96)% (g)	1.43%(g)	1.43%(d)(g)	77%

† Total return represents aggregate total return of a hypothetical \$1,000 investment at the beginning of the period and sold at the end of the period including reinvestment of distributions and does not reflect applicable sales charges. Total return for a period of less than one year is not annualized.

(a) Due to capital share activity, net investment loss per share and the ratio to average net assets are not necessarily correlated among the different classes of shares.

(b) Per share amounts have been calculated using the average shares outstanding method.

(c) Amount represents less than \$0.005 per share.

(d) The Fund received credits from a designated broker who agreed to pay certain Fund operating expenses. For the years ended September 30, 2017, 2016, and 2015, there was no impact to the expense ratios.

(e) Under an expense deferral agreement with the Adviser, the Adviser recovered from the Fund \$140,973 for the year ended September 30, 2013, representing previously reimbursed expenses from the Adviser. Had such payment not been made, the expense ratio would have been 1.48% (Class AAA and Class A), 2.23% (Class C), and 1.23% (Class I).

(f) Class T Shares were initially offered on July 5, 2017.

(g) Annualized.

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Notes to Financial Statements

1. Organization. The Gabelli Focus Five Fund is a series of Gabelli Equity Series Funds, Inc. (the “Corporation”). The Corporation was incorporated on July 25, 1991 in Maryland. The Fund is a non-diversified open-end management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), and one of three separately managed portfolios of the Corporation. The Fund seeks to provide a high level of capital appreciation. The Fund commenced investment operations on December 31, 2002. On July 5, 2017, the Fund began to offer for sale Class T Shares.

2. Significant Accounting Policies. As an investment company, the Fund follows the investment company accounting and reporting guidance, which is part of U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) that may require the use of management estimates and assumptions in the preparation of its financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The following is a summary of significant accounting policies followed by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

Security Valuation. Portfolio securities listed or traded on a nationally recognized securities exchange or traded in the U.S. over-the-counter market for which market quotations are readily available are valued at the last quoted sale price or a market’s official closing price as of the close of business on the day the securities are being valued. If there were no sales that day, the security is valued at the average of the closing bid and asked prices or, if there were no asked prices quoted on that day, then the security is valued at the closing bid price on that day. If no bid or asked prices are quoted on such day, the security is valued at the most recently available price or, if the Board of Directors (the “Board”) so determines, by such other method as the Board shall determine in good faith to reflect its fair market value. Portfolio securities traded on more than one national securities exchange or market are valued according to the broadest and most representative market, as determined by Gabelli Funds, LLC (the “Adviser”).

Portfolio securities primarily traded on a foreign market are generally valued at the preceding closing values of such securities on the relevant market, but may be fair valued pursuant to procedures established by the Board if market conditions change significantly after the close of the foreign market, but prior to the close of business on the day the securities are being valued. Debt obligations for which market quotations are readily available are valued at the average of the latest bid and asked prices. If there were no asked prices quoted on such day, the security is valued using the closing bid price, unless the Board determines such amount does not reflect the securities’ fair value, in which case these securities will be fair valued as determined by the Board. Certain securities are valued principally using dealer quotations. Futures contracts are valued at the closing settlement price of the exchange or board of trade on which the applicable contract is traded. OTC futures and options on futures for which market quotations are readily available will be valued by quotations received from a pricing service or, if no quotations are available from a pricing service, by quotations obtained from one or more dealers in the instrument in question by the Adviser.

Securities and assets for which market quotations are not readily available are fair valued as determined by the Board. Fair valuation methodologies and procedures may include, but are not limited to: analysis and review of available financial and non-financial information about the company; comparisons with the valuation and changes in valuation of similar securities, including a comparison of foreign securities with the equivalent U.S. dollar value American Depositary Receipt securities at the close of the U.S. exchange; and evaluation of any other information that could be indicative of the value of the security.

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

The inputs and valuation techniques used to measure fair value of the Fund's investments are summarized into three levels as described in the hierarchy below:

- Level 1 — quoted prices in active markets for identical securities;
- Level 2 — other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.); and
- Level 3 — significant unobservable inputs (including the Board's determinations as to the fair value of investments).

A financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input both individually and in the aggregate that is significant to the fair value measurement. The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities. The summary of the Fund's investments in securities and other financial instruments by inputs used to value the Fund's investments as of September 30, 2017 is as follows:

	Valuation Inputs			Total Market Value at 9/30/17
	Level 1 Quoted Prices	Level 2 Other Significant Observable Inputs	Level 3 Significant Unobservable Inputs	
INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES:				
ASSETS (Market Value):				
Common Stocks				
Business Services	—	—	\$ 0	\$ 0
Other Industries (a)	\$146,939,981	—	—	146,939,981
Total Common Stocks	146,939,981	—	0	146,939,981
U.S. Government Obligations	—	\$12,302,070	—	12,302,070
TOTAL INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES – ASSETS	\$146,939,981	\$12,302,070	\$ 0	\$159,242,051
INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES:				
LIABILITIES (Market Value):				
EQUITY CONTRACTS:				
Call Options Written	\$ (40,000)	—	—	\$ (40,000)
TOTAL INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES - LIABILITIES	\$ (40,000)	—	—	\$ (40,000)

(a) Please refer to the Schedule of Investments for the industry classifications of these portfolio holdings.

The Fund did not have transfers among Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 during the year ended September 30, 2017. The Fund's policy is to recognize transfers among Levels as of the beginning of the reporting period.

There were no Level 3 investments held at September 30, 2016.

Additional Information to Evaluate Qualitative Information.

General. The Fund uses recognized industry pricing services – approved by the Board and unaffiliated with the Adviser – to value most of its securities, and uses broker quotes provided by market makers of securities not valued by these and other recognized pricing sources. Several different pricing feeds are received to value domestic equity securities, international equity securities, preferred equity securities, and fixed income securities. The data within these feeds are ultimately sourced from major stock exchanges and trading systems where these securities trade. The prices supplied by external sources are checked by obtaining quotations or actual

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

transaction prices from market participants. If a price obtained from the pricing source is deemed unreliable, prices will be sought from another pricing service or from a broker/dealer that trades that security or similar securities.

Fair Valuation. Fair valued securities may be common or preferred equities, warrants, options, rights, or fixed income obligations. Where appropriate, Level 3 securities are those for which market quotations are not available, such as securities not traded for several days, or for which current bids are not available, or which are restricted as to transfer. When fair valuing a security, factors to consider are recent prices of comparable securities that are publicly traded, reliable prices of securities not publicly traded, the use of valuation models, current analyst reports, valuing the income or cash flow of the issuer, or cost if the preceding factors do not apply. A significant change in the unobservable inputs could result in a lower or higher value in Level 3 securities. The circumstances of Level 3 securities are frequently monitored to determine if fair valuation measures continue to apply.

The Adviser reports quarterly to the Board the results of the application of fair valuation policies and procedures. These may include backtesting the prices realized in subsequent trades of these fair valued securities to fair values previously recognized.

Derivative Financial Instruments. The Fund may engage in various portfolio investment strategies by investing in derivative financial instruments for the purposes of increasing the income of the Fund, hedging against changes in the value of its portfolio securities and in the value of securities it intends to purchase, or hedging against a specific transaction with respect to either the currency in which the transaction is denominated or another currency. Investing in certain derivative financial instruments, including participation in the options, futures, or swap markets, entails certain execution, liquidity, hedging, tax, and securities, interest, credit, or currency market risks. Losses may arise if the Adviser's prediction of movements in the direction of the securities, foreign currency, and interest rate markets is inaccurate. Losses may also arise if the counterparty does not perform its duties under a contract, or, in the event of default, the Fund may be delayed in or prevented from obtaining payments or other contractual remedies owed to it under derivative contracts. The creditworthiness of the counterparties is closely monitored in order to minimize these risks. Participation in derivative transactions involves investment risks, transaction costs, and potential losses to which the Fund would not be subject absent the use of these strategies. The consequences of these risks, transaction costs, and losses may have a negative impact on the Fund's ability to pay distributions.

Collateral requirements differ by type of derivative. Collateral requirements are set by the broker or exchange clearing house for exchange traded derivatives, while collateral terms are contract specific for derivatives traded over-the-counter. Securities pledged to cover obligations of the Fund under derivative contracts are noted in the Schedule of Investments. Cash collateral, if any, pledged for the same purpose will be reported, separately as Deposit at brokers, in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

The Fund's derivative contracts held at September 30, 2017, if any, are not accounted for as hedging instruments under GAAP and are disclosed in the Schedule of Investments together with the related counterparty.

Options. The Fund may purchase or write call or put options on securities or indices for the purpose of increasing the income of the Fund. As a writer of put options, the Fund receives a premium at the outset and then bears the risk of unfavorable changes in the price of the financial instrument underlying the option. The

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

Fund would incur a loss if the price of the underlying financial instrument decreases between the date the option is written and the date on which the option is terminated. The Fund would realize a gain, to the extent of the premium, if the price of the financial instrument increases between those dates.

As a purchaser of put options, the Fund pays a premium for the right to sell to the seller of the put option the underlying security at a specified price. The seller of the put has the obligation to purchase the underlying security upon exercise at the exercise price. If the price of the underlying security declines, the Fund would realize a gain upon sale or exercise. If the price of the underlying security increases or stays the same, the Fund would realize a loss upon sale or at expiration date, but only to the extent of the premium paid.

If a written call option is exercised, the premium is added to the proceeds from the sale of the underlying security in determining whether there has been a realized gain or loss. If a written put option is exercised, the premium reduces the cost basis of the security. In the case of call options, the exercise prices are referred to as “in-the-money,” “at-the-money,” and “out-of-the-money,” respectively. The Fund may write (a) in-the-money call options when the Adviser expects that the price of the underlying security will remain stable or decline during the option period, (b) at-the-money call options when the Adviser expects that the price of the underlying security will remain stable, decline, or advance moderately during the option period, and (c) out-of-the-money call options when the Adviser expects that the premiums received from writing the call option will be greater than the appreciation in the price of the underlying security above the exercise price. By writing a call option, the Fund limits its opportunity to profit from any increase in the market value of the underlying security above the exercise price of the option. Out-of-the-money, at-the-money, and in-the-money put options (the reverse of call options as to the relation of exercise price to market price) may be utilized in the same market environments that such call options are used in equivalent transactions. Option positions at September 30, 2017, are reflected within the Schedule of Investments.

The Fund's volume of activity in equity options contracts while outstanding during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2017 had an average monthly market value of approximately \$86,572.

At September 30, 2017, the Fund's derivative liabilities (by type) are as follows:

	Gross Amounts of Recognized Liabilities Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Gross Amounts Available for Offset in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Net Amounts of Liabilities Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Liabilities			
Equity Written Call Options	\$40,000	—	\$40,000

The following table presents the Fund's derivative liabilities by counterparty net of the related collateral segregated by the Fund as of Date:

Counterparty	Net Amounts of Liabilities Presented in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Gross Amounts Not Offset in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities		Net Amount
		Financial Instruments	Cash Collateral Pledged	
Pershing LLC	\$40,000	\$40,000	—	—

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

As of September 30, 2017, the value of equity option positions can be found in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities under Liabilities, Call options written. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2017, the effect of equity option positions if any, can be found in the Statement of Operations under Net Realized and Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investments, Written Options, and Foreign Currency, within Net realized gain on written options and Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on written options.

Foreign Currency Translations. The books and records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. Foreign currencies, investments, and other assets and liabilities are translated into U.S. dollars at current exchange rates. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income, and expenses are translated at the exchange rate prevailing on the respective dates of such transactions. Unrealized gains and losses that result from changes in foreign exchange rates and/or changes in market prices of securities have been included in unrealized appreciation/depreciation on investments and foreign currency translations. Net realized foreign currency gains and losses resulting from changes in exchange rates include foreign currency gains and losses between trade date and settlement date on investment securities transactions, foreign currency transactions, and the difference between the amounts of interest and dividends recorded on the books of the Fund and the amounts actually received. The portion of foreign currency gains and losses related to fluctuation in exchange rates between the initial purchase trade date and subsequent sale trade date is included in realized gain/(loss) on investments.

Foreign Securities. The Fund may directly purchase securities of foreign issuers. Investing in securities of foreign issuers involves special risks not typically associated with investing in securities of U.S. issuers. The risks include possible revaluation of currencies, the inability to repatriate funds, less complete financial information about companies, and possible future adverse political and economic developments. Moreover, securities of many foreign issuers and their markets may be less liquid and their prices more volatile than securities of comparable U.S. issuers.

Foreign Taxes. The Fund may be subject to foreign taxes on income, gains on investments, or currency repatriation, a portion of which may be recoverable. The Fund will accrue such taxes and recoveries as applicable, based upon its current interpretation of tax rules and regulations that exist in the markets in which it invests.

Securities Transactions and Investment Income. Securities transactions are accounted for on the trade date with realized gain/(loss) on investments determined by using the identified cost method. Interest income (including amortization of premium and accretion of discount) is recorded on the accrual basis. Premiums and discounts on debt securities are amortized using the effective yield to maturity method. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date, except for certain dividends from foreign securities that are recorded as soon after the ex-dividend date as the Fund becomes aware of such dividends.

Determination of Net Asset Value and Calculation of Expenses. Certain administrative expenses are common to, and allocated among, various affiliated funds. Such allocations are made on the basis of each fund's average net assets or other criteria directly affecting the expenses as determined by the Adviser pursuant to procedures established by the Board.

In calculating the NAV per share of each class, investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, redemption fees, and expenses other than class specific expenses are allocated daily to each class of shares

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

based upon the proportion of net assets of each class at the beginning of each day. Distribution expenses are borne solely by the class incurring the expense.

Distributions to Shareholders. Distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Distributions to shareholders are based on income and capital gains as determined in accordance with federal income tax regulations, which may differ from income and capital gains as determined under GAAP. These differences are primarily due to differing treatments of income and gains on various investment securities and foreign currency transactions held by the Fund, timing differences, and differing characterizations of distributions made by the Fund. These book/tax differences are either temporary or permanent in nature. To the extent these differences are permanent, adjustments are made to the appropriate capital accounts in the period when the differences arise. Permanent differences were primarily due to current year write-off of net operating loss. These reclassifications have no impact on the NAV of the Fund. For the year ended September 30, 2017, reclassifications were made to decrease accumulated net investment loss by \$2,940,286 and decrease accumulated net realized loss on investments, written options, and foreign transactions by \$97,085, with an offsetting adjustment to paid-in capital.

The tax character of distributions paid during the year ended September 30, 2017 was as follows:

Distributions paid from:	
Net long term capital gains.....	\$2,431,353
Total distributions paid	<u>\$2,431,353</u>

No distributions were paid during the year ended September 30, 2016.

Provision for Income Taxes. The Fund intends to continue to qualify as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). It is the policy of the Fund to comply with the requirements of the Code applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute substantially all of its net investment company taxable income and net capital gains. Therefore, no provision for federal income taxes is required,

At September 30, 2017, the components of accumulated earnings/losses on a tax basis were as follows:

Net unrealized appreciation on investments and written options	\$24,633,082
Qualified late year loss deferral*	<u>(2,351,741)</u>
Total	<u>\$22,281,341</u>

* Under the current law, qualified late year ordinary losses realized after December 31 or post October capital losses realized after October 31 and prior to the Fund's year end may be elected as occurring on the first day of the following year. For the year ended September 30, 2017, the Fund elected to defer \$1,300,977 of late year ordinary losses and \$1,050,764 of post October capital losses.

The Fund is permitted to carry capital losses forward for an unlimited period. Capital losses that are carried forward will retain their character as either short term or long term capital losses.

During the year ended September 30, 2017, the Fund utilized carry capital loss forwards of \$1,624,137.

At September 30, 2017, the temporary differences between book basis and tax basis unrealized appreciation on investments were primarily due to deferral of losses from wash sales for tax purposes.

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

The following summarizes the tax cost of investments and the related net unrealized depreciation at September 30, 2017:

	<u>Cost/ Premiums</u>	<u>Gross Unrealized Appreciation</u>	<u>Gross Unrealized Depreciation</u>	<u>Net Unrealized Appreciation</u>
Investments	\$134,628,006	\$29,041,035	\$(4,426,990)	\$24,614,045
Written options	(59,037)	19,037	—	19,037
		<u>\$29,060,072</u>	<u>\$(4,426,990)</u>	<u>\$24,633,082</u>

The Fund is required to evaluate tax positions taken or expected to be taken in the course of preparing the Fund's tax returns to determine whether the tax positions are "more-likely-than-not" of being sustained by the applicable tax authority. Income tax and related interest and penalties would be recognized by the Fund as tax expense in the Statement of Operations if the tax positions were deemed not to meet the more-likely-than-not threshold. For the year ended September 30, 2017, the Fund did not incur any income tax, interest, or penalties. As of September 30, 2017, the Adviser has reviewed all open tax years and concluded that there was no impact to the Fund's net assets or results of operations. The Fund's federal and state tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open, subject to examination. On an ongoing basis, the Adviser will monitor the Fund's tax positions to determine if adjustments to this conclusion are necessary.

3. Investment Advisory Agreement and Other Transactions. The Fund has entered into an investment advisory agreement (the "Advisory Agreement") with the Adviser which provides that the Fund will pay the Adviser a fee, computed daily and paid monthly, at the annual rate of 1.00% of the value of its average daily net assets. In accordance with the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser provides a continuous investment program for the Fund's portfolio, oversees the administration of all aspects of the Fund's business and affairs, and pays the compensation of all Officers and Directors of the Fund who are affiliated persons of the Adviser.

The Corporation pays each Director who is not considered an affiliated person an annual retainer of \$18,000 plus \$2,000 for each Board meeting attended, and they are reimbursed for any out of pocket expenses incurred in attending meetings. All Board committee members receive \$1,000 per meeting attended. The Chairman of the Audit Committee receives a \$3,000 annual fee, and the Lead Director receives an annual fee of \$2,000. A Director may receive a single meeting fee, allocated among the participating funds, for attending certain meetings held on behalf of multiple funds. Directors who are directors or employees of the Adviser or an affiliated company receive no compensation or expense reimbursement from the Corporation.

4. Distribution Plan. The Fund's Board has adopted a distribution plan (the "Plan") for each class of shares, except for Class I Shares, pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act. Under the Class AAA, Class A, Class C, and Class T Share Plans, payments are authorized to G.distributors, LLC (the "Distributor"), an affiliate of the Adviser, at annual rates of 0.25%, 0.25%, 1.00%, and 0.25%, respectively, of the average daily net assets of those classes, the annual limitations under each Plan. Such payments are accrued daily and paid monthly.

5. Portfolio Securities. Purchases and sales of securities during the year ended September 30, 2017, other than short term securities and U.S. Government obligations, aggregated \$129,956,140 and \$222,129,144, respectively.

6. Transactions with Affiliates and Other Arrangements. During the year ended September 30, 2017, the Distributor retained a total of \$17,116 from investors representing commissions (sales charges and underwriting fees) on sales and redemptions of Fund shares.

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

During the year ended September 30, 2017, the Fund received credits from a designated broker who agreed to pay certain Fund operating expenses. The amount of such expenses paid through this directed brokerage arrangement during this period was \$2,749.

The cost of calculating the Fund's NAV per share is a Fund expense pursuant to the Advisory Agreement. During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2017, the Fund paid or accrued \$45,000 to the Adviser in connection with the cost of computing the Fund's NAV.

7. Line of Credit. The Fund participates in an unsecured line of credit, which expires on March 8, 2018 and may be renewed annually, of up to \$75,000,000 under which it may borrow up to 10% of its net assets from the custodian for temporary borrowing purposes. Borrowings under this arrangement bear interest at a floating rate equal to the higher of the overnight Federal Funds rate plus 125 basis points or the 30 day LIBOR plus 125 basis points in effect on that day. This amount, if any, would be included in "Interest expense" in the Statement of Operations. At September 30, 2017, there were no borrowings outstanding under the line of credit.

The average daily amount of borrowings outstanding under the line of credit during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2017 was \$9,082 with a weighted average interest rate of 2.04%. The maximum amount borrowed at any time during the year ended September 30, 2017 was \$2,270,000.

8. Capital Stock. The Fund offers five classes of shares—Class AAA Shares, Class A Shares, Class C Shares, Class I Shares, and Class T Shares. Class AAA and Class I Shares are offered without a sales charge. Class A Shares and Class T Shares are subject to a maximum front-end sales charge of 5.75%, and 2.50%, respectively, and Class C Shares are subject to a 1.00% contingent deferred sales charge for one year after purchase.

The Fund imposes a redemption fee of 2.00% on all classes of shares that are redeemed or exchanged on or before the seventh day after the date of a purchase. The redemption fee is deducted from the proceeds otherwise payable to the redeeming shareholders and is retained by the Fund as an increase in paid-in capital. The redemption fees retained by the Fund during the years ended September 30, 2017 and 2016, if any, can be found in the Statement of Changes in Net Assets under Redemption Fees.

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

Transactions in shares of capital stock were as follows:

	Year Ended September 30, 2017		Year Ended September 30, 2016	
	Shares	Amount	Shares	Amount
Class AAA				
Shares sold.....	121,107	\$ 1,624,522	325,047	\$ 3,981,673
Shares issued upon reinvestment of distributions.....	26,864	339,563	—	—
Shares redeemed.....	(1,064,012)	(13,939,533)	(1,113,757)	(13,666,921)
Net decrease.....	<u>(916,041)</u>	<u>\$(11,975,448)</u>	<u>(788,710)</u>	<u>\$ (9,685,248)</u>
Class A				
Shares sold.....	269,609	\$ 3,696,015	545,886	\$ 6,946,569
Shares issued upon reinvestment of distributions.....	32,313	412,635	—	—
Shares redeemed.....	(1,473,249)	(19,743,982)	(2,168,667)	(27,316,293)
Net decrease.....	<u>(1,171,327)</u>	<u>\$(15,635,332)</u>	<u>(1,622,781)</u>	<u>\$ (20,369,724)</u>
Class C				
Shares sold.....	238,378	\$ 2,779,240	745,654	\$ 8,293,234
Shares issued upon reinvestment of distributions.....	47,717	529,186	—	—
Shares redeemed.....	(2,162,814)	(25,234,145)	(2,559,094)	(28,250,044)
Net decrease.....	<u>(1,876,719)</u>	<u>\$(21,925,719)</u>	<u>(1,813,440)</u>	<u>\$ (19,956,810)</u>
Class I				
Shares sold.....	1,370,129	\$ 18,687,678	1,608,302	\$ 20,528,256
Shares issued upon reinvestment of distributions.....	70,411	913,230	—	—
Shares redeemed.....	(4,070,826)	(55,056,202)	(8,485,808)	(107,987,987)
Net decrease.....	<u>(2,630,286)</u>	<u>\$(35,455,294)</u>	<u>(6,877,506)</u>	<u>\$ (87,459,731)</u>
Class T (a)				
Shares sold.....	71	\$ 1,000	—	—
Net decrease.....	<u>71</u>	<u>\$ 1,000</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

(a) Class T Shares were initially offered on July 5, 2017.

9. Transactions in Securities of Affiliated Issuers. The 1940 Act defines affiliated issuers as those in which the Fund's holdings of an issuer represent 5% or more of the outstanding voting securities of the issuer. A summary of the Fund's transactions in the securities of these issuers during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2017 is set forth below:

	Beginning Shares	Shares Purchased	Shares Sold	Ending Shares	Affiliated Investments Dividend Income	Affiliated Investments Realized Loss	Affiliated Investments Value at September 30, 2017	Affiliated Investments Change in Unrealized Appreciation/ Depreciation	Percent Owned of Shares Outstanding
Bioscrip Inc.*	8,956,023	1,194,744	(4,969,790)	5,180,977	—	—	—	—	4.06%

* Security is no longer considered affiliated at September 30, 2017.

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Notes to Financial Statements (Continued)

10. Indemnifications. The Fund enters into contracts that contain a variety of indemnifications. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown. However, the Fund has not had prior claims or losses pursuant to these contracts. Management has reviewed the Fund's existing contracts and expects the risk of loss to be remote.

11. Subsequent Events. Management has evaluated the impact on the Fund of all subsequent events occurring through the date the financial statements were issued and has determined that there were no subsequent events requiring recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Shareholders and Board of Directors of
The Gabelli Focus Five Fund

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of The Gabelli Focus Five Fund (the “Fund”), a series of Gabelli Equity Series Funds, Inc., including the schedule of investments, as of September 30, 2017, and the related statement of operations for the year then ended, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended. These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of the Fund’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and financial highlights are free of material misstatement. We were not engaged to perform an audit of the Fund’s internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Fund’s internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and financial highlights, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of September 30, 2017, by correspondence with the Fund’s custodian and brokers. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Gabelli Focus Five Fund, a series of Gabelli Equity Series Funds, Inc., at September 30, 2017, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Ernst + Young LLP

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
November 28, 2017

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund Additional Fund Information (Unaudited)

The business and affairs of the Corporation are managed under the direction of the Corporation's Board of Directors. Information pertaining to the Directors and officers of the Corporation is set forth below. The Corporation's Statement of Additional Information includes additional information about the Corporation's Directors and is available without charge, upon request, by calling 800-GABELLI (800-422-3554) or by writing to The Gabelli Focus Five Fund at One Corporate Center, Rye, NY 10580-1422.

<u>Name, Position(s) Address¹ and Age</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served²</u>	<u>Number of Funds in Fund Complex Overseen by Director</u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</u>	<u>Other Directorships Held by Director⁴</u>
INTERESTED DIRECTORS³:				
Mario J. Gabelli, CFA Director and Chief Investment Officer Age: 75	Since 1991	32	Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, and Chief Investment Officer– Value Portfolios of GAMCO Investors, Inc. and Chief Investment Officer– Value Portfolios of Gabelli Funds, LLC and GAMCO Asset Management Inc.; Director/Trustee or Chief Investment Officer of other registered investment companies within the Gabelli/ GAMCO/Teton Fund Complex; Chief Executive Officer of GGCP, Inc.; Executive Chairman of Associated Capital Group, Inc.	Director of Morgan Group Holdings, Inc. (holding company); Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of LICIT Corp. (multimedia and communication services company); Director of CIBL, Inc. (broadcasting and wireless communications); Director of ICTC Group Inc. (communications); Director of RLJ Acquisition, Inc. (blank check company) (2011-2012)
John Gabelli Director Age: 73	Since 1991	10	Senior Vice President of G.research, LLC	—
INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS⁵:				
Anthony J. Colavita Director Age: 81	Since 1991	28	President of the law firm of Anthony J. Colavita, P.C.	—
Vincent D. Enright Director Age: 73	Since 1991	17	Former Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of KeySpan Corp. (public utility) (1994-1998)	Director of Echo Therapeutics, Inc. (therapeutics and diagnostics) (2008- 2014); Director of LGL Group, Inc. (diversified manufacturing) (2011-2014)
Robert J. Morrissey Director Age: 78	Since 1991	6	Partner in the law firm of Morrissey, Hawkins & Lynch	Chairman of the Board of Directors, Belmont Savings Bank
Kuni Nakamura Director Age: 49	Since 2009	33	President of Advanced Polymer, Inc. (chemical manufacturing company); President of KEN Enterprises, Inc. (real estate)	—
Anthony R. Pustorino Director Age: 92	Since 1991	10	Certified Public Accountant; Professor Emeritus, Pace University	Director of The LGL Group, Inc. (diversified manufacturing) (2004-2011)
Anthonie C. van Ekris Director Age: 83	Since 1991	22	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of BALMAC International, Inc. (global import/ export company)	—
Salvatore J. Zizza Director Age: 71	Since 2001	30	President of Zizza & Associates Corp. (private holding company); Chairman of Harbor Diversified, Inc. (pharmaceuticals); Chairman of BAM (semiconductor and aerospace manufacturing); Chairman of Bergen Cove Realty Inc.; Chairman of Metropolitan Paper Recycling Inc. (recycling) (2005-2014)	Director and Vice Chairman of Trans-Lux Corporation (business services); Director and Chairman of Harbor Diversified Inc. (pharmaceuticals); Director, Chairman, and CEO of General Employment Enterprises (staffing services) (2009-2012)

The Gabelli Focus Five Fund Additional Fund Information (Unaudited) (Continued)

<u>Name, Position(s) Address¹ and Age</u>	<u>Term of Office and Length of Time Served²</u>	<u>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</u>
OFFICERS:		
Bruce N. Alpert President Age: 65	Since 1991	Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Gabelli Funds, LLC since 1988; Officer of registered investment companies within the Gabelli/GAMCO/Teton Fund Complex; Senior Vice President of GAMCO Investors, Inc. since 2008; Director of Teton Advisors, Inc., 1998-2012
Agnes Mullady Vice President Age: 59	Since 2006	Officer of all of the registered investment companies within the Gabelli/GAMCO/Teton Fund Complex since 2006; President and Chief Operating Officer of the Fund Division of Gabelli Funds, LLC since 2015; Chief Executive Officer of G.distributors, LLC since 2010; Senior Vice President of GAMCO Investors, Inc. since 2009; Vice President of Gabelli Funds, LLC since 2007; Executive Vice President of Associated Capital Group, Inc. since 2016
Andrea R. Mango Secretary Age: 45	Since 2013	Vice President of GAMCO Investors, Inc. since 2016; Counsel of Gabelli Funds, LLC since 2013; Secretary of all registered investment companies within the Gabelli/GAMCO/Teton Fund Complex since 2013; Vice President of all closed-end funds within the Gabelli/GAMCO/Teton Fund Complex since 2014; Corporate Vice President within the Corporate Compliance Department of New York Life Insurance Company, 2011-2013; Vice President and Counsel of Deutsche Bank, 2006-2011
John C. Ball Treasurer Age: 41	Since 2017	Treasurer of funds within the Gabelli/GAMCO/Teton Fund Complex (closed-end funds since May 2017 and open-end funds since February 2017); Vice President and Assistant Treasurer of AMG Funds, 2014-2017; Vice President of State Street Corporation, 2007-2014
Richard J. Walz Chief Compliance Officer Age: 58	Since 2013	Chief Compliance Officer of all of the registered investment companies within the Gabelli/GAMCO/Teton Fund Complex since 2013; Chief Compliance Officer of AEGON USA Investment Management, 2011-2013; Chief Compliance Officer of Cutwater Asset Management, 2004-2011

¹ Address: One Corporate Center, Rye, NY 10580-1422, unless otherwise noted.

² Each Director will hold office for an indefinite term until the earliest of (i) the next meeting of shareholders, if any, called for the purpose of considering the election or re-election of such Director and until the election and qualification of his or her successor, if any, elected at such meeting, or (ii) the date a Director resigns or retires, or a Director is removed by the Board of Directors or shareholders, in accordance with the Fund's By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation. Each officer will hold office for an indefinite term until the date he or she resigns or retires or until his or her successor is elected and qualified.

³ "Interested person" of the Fund as defined in the 1940 Act. Messrs. Gabelli are each considered an "interested person" because of their affiliation with Gabelli Funds, LLC which acts as the Fund's investment adviser. Mario J. Gabelli and John D. Gabelli are brothers.

⁴ This column includes only directorships of companies required to report to the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, i.e., public companies, or other investment companies registered under the 1940 Act.

⁵ Directors who are not interested persons are considered "Independent" Directors.

2017 TAX NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS (Unaudited)

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2017, the Fund paid to shareholders long term capital gains totaling \$2,431,353, or the maximum allowable. The distribution of long term capital gains has been designated as a capital gain dividend by the Fund's Board of Directors.

All designations are based on financial information available as of the date of this annual report and, accordingly, are subject to change. For each item, it is the intention of the Fund to designate the maximum amount permitted under the Internal Revenue Code and the regulations thereunder.

Gabelli/GAMCO Funds and Your Personal Privacy

Who are we?

The Gabelli/GAMCO Funds are investment companies registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Investment Company Act of 1940. We are managed by Gabelli Funds, LLC and GAMCO Asset Management Inc., which are affiliated with GAMCO Investors, Inc. that is a publicly held company with subsidiaries and affiliates that provide investment advisory services for a variety of clients.

What kind of non-public information do we collect about you if you become a fund shareholder?

If you apply to open an account directly with us, you will be giving us some non-public information about yourself. The non-public information we collect about you is:

- *Information you give us on your application form.* This could include your name, address, telephone number, social security number, bank account number, and other information.
- *Information about your transactions with us, any transactions with our affiliates, and transactions with the entities we hire to provide services to you.* This would include information about the shares that you buy or redeem. If we hire someone else to provide services — like a transfer agent — we will also have information about the transactions that you conduct through them.

What information do we disclose and to whom do we disclose it?

We do not disclose any non-public personal information about our customers or former customers to anyone other than our affiliates, our service providers who need to know such information, and as otherwise permitted by law. If you want to find out what the law permits, you can read the privacy rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission. They are in volume 17 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 248. The Commission often posts information about its regulations on its website, www.sec.gov.

What do we do to protect your personal information?

We restrict access to non-public personal information about you to the people who need to know that information in order to provide services to you or the fund and to ensure that we are complying with the laws governing the securities business. We maintain physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards to keep your personal information confidential.

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Gabelli Equity Series Funds, Inc.

THE GABELLI FOCUS FIVE FUND

One Corporate Center
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