

# GAB

## THE GABELLI EQUITY TRUST INC.

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter - March 31, 2018



GABELLI  
FUNDS

### INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Gabelli Equity Trust is a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company whose primary investment objective is long term growth of capital, with income as a secondary objective.

NYSE: **GAB**  
CUSIP: 362397101

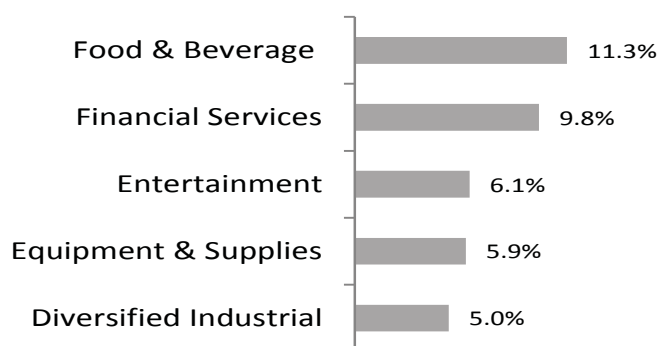
### PORTFOLIO HIGHLIGHTS - 03/31/18

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Total Net Assets:                             | \$2.0 Billion |
| Number of Holdings:                           | 469           |
| Net Asset Value ("NAV") per share             | \$6.27        |
| NYSE Market Price:                            | \$6.12        |
| Premium (Discount):                           | (2.4)%        |
| Expense Ratio <sup>(a)</sup> <sup>(b)</sup> : | 1.4%          |
| Turnover <sup>(b)</sup> :                     | 11.4%         |
| Inception Date:                               | 08/21/86      |
| Cash & Equivalents:                           | 5.2%          |

(a) Ratio of operating expenses to average net assets attributable to common shares.

(b) As of 12/31/17.

### TOP SECTORS OF PORTFOLIO



Information regarding the Fund's distribution policy and the most recent quarterly report, which contains a more extensive list of holdings, is available by calling 800-GABELLI (800-422-3554). The distribution rate is not representative of dividend yield or the total return of the Fund and has historically included a return of capital.

To participate in the Dividend Reinvestment Cash Purchase Plan please contact Computershare at (800) 336-6983.

### CAPITAL STRUCTURE

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| 252 Million Common Shares                    | \$1.6 Billion (NAV) |
| 5.875% Series D Cumulative Preferred Shares  | \$59 Million        |
| 5.00% Series G Cumulative Preferred Shares   | \$70 Million        |
| 5.00% Series H Cumulative Preferred Share    | \$104 Million       |
| 5.45% Series J Cumulative Preferred Share    | \$80 Million        |
| Auction Rate Preferred (Series C & Series E) | \$100 Million       |

*Leverage Risk.* The use of leverage, which can be described as exposure to changes in price at a ratio greater than the amount of equity invested, through the issuance of preferred shares, magnifies both the favorable and unfavorable effects of price movements in the investments made by the Fund. The Fund's use of leverage in its investment operations subjects it to substantial risk of loss.

### TOP TEN HOLDINGS

- Rollins Inc.
- Honeywell International Inc.
- MasterCard Inc.
- Swedish Match AB
- Berkshire Hathaway Inc.
- American Express Co.
- Twenty-First Century Fox Inc.
- Curtiss-Wright Corp.
- Ametek Inc.
- IDEX Corp.

The top ten holdings and top sectors listed are not necessarily representative of the entire portfolio and are subject to change.

## PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT



**Mario J. Gabelli, CFA**, is Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, and Chief Investment Officer – Value Portfolios of GAMCO Investors, Inc. that he founded in 1977, and Chief Investment Officer – Value Portfolios of Gabelli Funds, LLC and GAMCO Asset Management Inc. He is also Executive Chairman of the Board of Directors of Associated Capital Group, Inc. Mr. Gabelli is a summa cum laude graduate of Fordham University and holds an MBA degree from Columbia Business School, and Honorary Doctorates from Fordham University and Roger Williams University.



**Christopher J. Marangi** joined Gabelli in 2003 as a research analyst. Currently he is a Managing Director and Co-Chief Investment Officer for GAMCO Investors, Inc.'s Value team. In addition, he currently serves as a portfolio manager of Gabelli Funds, LLC and manages several funds within the Gabelli/GAMCO Funds Complex. Mr. Marangi graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa with a BA in Political Economy from Williams College and holds an MBA with honors from Columbia Business School.



**Kevin V. Dreyer** joined Gabelli in 2005 as a research analyst covering companies within the consumer sector. Currently he is a Managing Director and Co-Chief Investment Officer for GAMCO Investors, Inc.'s Value team. In addition, he currently serves as a portfolio manager of Gabelli Funds, LLC and manages several funds within the Gabelli/GAMCO Funds Complex. Mr. Dreyer received a BSE from the University of Pennsylvania and an MBA from Columbia Business School.



**Robert D. Leininger, CFA**, joined GAMCO Investors, Inc. in 1993 as an equity analyst. Subsequently, he was a partner and portfolio manager at Rorer Asset Management before rejoining GAMCO in 2010 where he currently serves as a portfolio manager of Gabelli Funds, LLC. Mr. Leininger is a magna cum laude graduate of Amherst College with a degree in Economics and holds an MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.



**Daniel M. Miller** currently serves as a portfolio manager of Gabelli Funds, LLC. He is also a Managing Director of GAMCO and Chairman of Gabelli & Company, the firm's institutional research business. Mr. Miller graduated magna cum laude with a degree in finance from the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida.



**Jennie Tsai** joined Gabelli in 2001 as a research analyst responsible for the healthcare and medical products industries. At Gabelli & Company, Ms. Tsai is focused on medical sectors, including orthopedics, dental, ophthalmology, general medical and others. She received her B.S. in Commerce at the University of Virginia and an MBA in Finance from Columbia Business School.

## PERFORMANCE

Average Annual Returns through March 31, 2018 (a)

| Gabelli Equity Trust         | QTR     | 1 Year | 5 Year | 10 Year | 15 Year | 20 Year | 25 Year | Since Inception (08/21/86) |
|------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------------------------|
| NAV Total Return (b)         | (0.84)% | 15.87% | 11.20% | 9.37%   | 12.64%  | 8.69%   | 10.29%  | 10.93%                     |
| Investment Total Return (c)  | 1.28    | 13.86  | 10.00  | 8.37    | 10.83   | 8.48    | 9.89    | 10.57                      |
| S&P 500 Index                | (0.76)  | 13.99  | 13.31  | 9.49    | 10.10   | 6.46    | 9.47    | 10.18 (d)                  |
| Dow Jones Industrial Average | (1.97)  | 19.34  | 13.25  | 9.81    | 10.36   | 7.64    | 10.66   | 11.22 (d)                  |
| Nasdaq Composite Index       | 2.59    | 20.90  | 18.13  | 13.31   | 12.96   | 7.95    | 9.74    | 10.00 (e)                  |

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*Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of the Fund before investing.*

*The Fund's NAV per share will fluctuate with changes in the market value of the Fund's portfolio securities. Stocks are subject to market, economic, and business risks that cause their prices to fluctuate. Investors acquire shares of the Fund on a securities exchange at market value, which fluctuates according to the dynamics of supply and demand. When Fund shares are sold, they may be worth more or less than their original cost. Consequently, you can lose money by investing in the Fund.*

(a) Returns represent past performance and do not guarantee future results. Investment returns and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data presented. Visit [www.gabelli.com](http://www.gabelli.com) for performance information as of the most recent month end. Performance returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized. The Dow Jones Industrial Average is an unmanaged index of 30 large capitalization stocks. The S&P 500 and the Nasdaq Composite Indices are unmanaged indicators of stock market performance. Dividends are considered reinvested except for the Nasdaq Composite Index. You cannot invest directly in an index.

(b) Total returns and average annual returns reflect changes in the NAV per share, reinvestment of distributions at NAV on the ex-dividend date, adjustments for rights offerings, spin-offs, and taxes paid on undistributed long-term capital gains and are net of expenses. Since inception return is based on an initial NAV of \$9.34.

(c) Total returns and average annual returns reflect changes in closing market values on the New York Stock Exchange, reinvestment of distributions, and adjustments for rights offerings, spin-offs, and taxes paid on undistributed long term capital gains. Since inception return is based on an initial offering price of \$10.00.

(d) From August 31, 1986, the date closest to the Fund's inception for which data is available.

(e) From September 30, 1986, the date closest to the Fund's inception for which data is available.