

**QUALIFIED DEFAULT INVESTMENT (QDIA) NOTICE
FOR PLAN YEAR BEGINNING IN 2025
Academy of Art University 401(k) Retirement Plan**

As a Participant or beneficiary in the Academy of Art University 401(k) Retirement Plan (the “Plan”), you may elect how to invest some or all of the assets in your Plan account. The purpose of this Notice is to describe how your Plan account will be invested if you do not provide instructions regarding the investment of the assets in your Plan account.

Default Investment Fund. The Plan allows you to direct the investment of some or all of your Plan account within the available investment options under the Plan. If you do not elect to invest those assets in your Plan account, such amounts will automatically be invested in the Plan’s default investment fund. This default investment is intended to meet the requirements of a qualified default investment alternative (“QDIA”) under Department of Labor regulations.

Name of Default Investment Fund. The Plan’s default investment fund is **Vanguard Target Retirement Fund**.

Characteristics of Default Investment Fund. The following describes the investment objectives and risk and return characteristics of the Plan’s default investment fund. The QDIA for a participant will be the target date year that falls nearest the 65th birthday of the participant.

Vanguard Target Retirement 2020 Fund

The investment seeks to provide capital appreciation and current income consistent with its current asset allocation. The fund invests in a mix of Vanguard mutual funds according to an asset allocation strategy designed for investors planning to retire and leave the workforce in or within a few years of 2020 (the target year). The fund's asset allocation will become more conservative over time, meaning that the percentage of assets allocated to stocks will decrease while the percentage of assets allocated to bonds and other fixed income investments will increase.

Vanguard Target Retirement 2025 Fund

The investment seeks to provide capital appreciation and current income consistent with its current asset allocation. The fund invests in a mix of Vanguard mutual funds according to an asset allocation strategy designed for investors planning to retire and leave the workforce in or within a few years of 2025 (the target year). The fund's asset allocation will become more conservative over time, meaning that the percentage of assets allocated to stocks will decrease while the percentage of assets allocated to bonds and other fixed income investments will increase.

Vanguard Target Retirement 2030 Fund

The investment seeks to provide capital appreciation and current income consistent with its current asset allocation. The fund invests in a mix of Vanguard mutual funds according to an asset allocation strategy designed for investors planning to retire and leave the workforce in or within a few years of 2030 (the target year). The fund's asset allocation will become more conservative over time, meaning that the percentage of

assets allocated to stocks will decrease while the percentage of assets allocated to bonds and other fixed income investments will increase.

Vanguard Target Retirement 2035 Fund

The investment seeks to provide capital appreciation and current income consistent with its current asset allocation. The fund invests in a mix of Vanguard mutual funds according to an asset allocation strategy designed for investors planning to retire and leave the workforce in or within a few years of 2035 (the target year). The fund's asset allocation will become more conservative over time, meaning that the percentage of assets allocated to stocks will decrease while the percentage of assets allocated to bonds and other fixed income investments will increase.

Vanguard Target Retirement 2040 Fund

The investment seeks to provide capital appreciation and current income consistent with its current asset allocation. The fund invests in a mix of Vanguard mutual funds according to an asset allocation strategy designed for investors planning to retire and leave the workforce in or within a few years of 2040 (the target year). The fund's asset allocation will become more conservative over time, meaning that the percentage of assets allocated to stocks will decrease while the percentage of assets allocated to bonds and other fixed income investments will increase.

Vanguard Target Retirement 2045 Fund

The investment seeks to provide capital appreciation and current income consistent with its current asset allocation. The fund invests in a mix of Vanguard mutual funds according to an asset allocation strategy designed for investors planning to retire and leave the workforce in or within a few years of 2045 (the target year). The fund's asset allocation will become more conservative over time, meaning that the percentage of assets allocated to stocks will decrease while the percentage of assets allocated to bonds and other fixed income investments will increase.

Vanguard Target Retirement 2050 Fund

The investment seeks to provide capital appreciation and current income consistent with its current asset allocation. The fund invests in a mix of Vanguard mutual funds according to an asset allocation strategy designed for investors planning to retire and leave the workforce in or within a few years of 2050 (the target year). The fund's asset allocation will become more conservative over time, meaning that the percentage of assets allocated to stocks will decrease while the percentage of assets allocated to bonds and other fixed income investments will increase.

Vanguard Target Retirement 2055 Fund

The investment seeks to provide capital appreciation and current income consistent with its current asset allocation. The fund invests in a mix of Vanguard mutual funds according to an asset allocation strategy designed for investors planning to retire and leave the workforce in or within a few years of 2055 (the target year). The fund's asset allocation will become more conservative over time, meaning that the percentage of assets allocated to stocks will decrease while the percentage of assets allocated to bonds and other fixed income investments will increase.

Vanguard Target Retirement 2060 Fund

The investment seeks to provide capital appreciation and current income consistent with its current asset allocation. The fund invests in a mix of Vanguard mutual funds according to an asset allocation strategy designed for investors planning to retire and leave the workforce in or within a few years of 2060 (the target year). The fund's asset allocation will become more conservative over time, meaning that the percentage of assets allocated to stocks will decrease while the percentage of assets allocated to bonds and other fixed income investments will increase.

Vanguard Target Retirement 2065 Fund

The investment seeks to provide capital appreciation and current income consistent with its current asset allocation. The fund invests in a mix of Vanguard mutual funds according to an asset allocation strategy designed for investors planning to retire and leave the workforce in or within a few years of 2065 (the target year). The fund's asset allocation will become more conservative over time, meaning that the percentage of assets allocated to stocks will decrease while the percentage of assets allocated to bonds and other fixed income investments will increase.

Vanguard Target Retirement 2070 Fund

The investment seeks to provide capital appreciation and current income consistent with its current asset allocation. The fund invests in a mix of Vanguard mutual funds (underlying funds) according to an asset allocation strategy designed for investors planning to retire and leave the workforce in or within a few years of 2070 (the target year). The fund's asset allocation will become more conservative over time, meaning that the percentage of assets allocated to stocks will decrease while the percentage of assets allocated to bonds and other fixed income investments will increase.

Vanguard Target Retirement Income Fund

The investment seeks to provide current income and some capital appreciation. The fund invests in a mix of Vanguard mutual funds according to an asset allocation strategy designed for investors currently in retirement. Its indirect bond holdings are a diversified mix of short-, intermediate-, and long-term U.S. government, U.S. agency, and investment-grade U.S. corporate bonds; inflation-protected public obligations issued by the U.S. Treasury; mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities; and government, agency, corporate, and securitized investment-grade foreign bonds issued in currencies other than the U.S. dollar.

Even if your Plan account is invested in the Plan's default investment fund, you have the continuing right to change your default investment and elect to have your Plan account invested in any other available investment options under the Plan. You may elect to transfer amounts from the default investment fund without incurring a financial penalty.

It is your responsibility to review account information on statements and the participant website for accuracy. To rebalance or transfer existing investments, please visit the participant website. You should report any discrepancies within 30 days of receipt of quarterly statement to the plan sponsor, investment consultant, or the recordkeeper.

To learn more about the available investments under the Plan, including additional information concerning the Plan's default investment fund and the procedures for changing how your Plan account is invested, please contact the Plan Administrator at:

Stephens Institute dba Academy of Art University
79 New Montgomery Street
San Francisco, California, 94105
(415) 618-6145