

BNY Mellon Appreciation Fund, Inc.

ANNUAL FINANCIALS AND OTHER INFORMATION

December 31, 2025

Class	Ticker
Investor	DGAGX
I	DGIGX
Y	DGYGX

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Not FDIC-Insured • Not Bank-Guaranteed • May Lose Value

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THE FUND

Please note the Annual Financials and Other Information only contains Items 7-11 required in Form N-CSR. All other required items will be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”).

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Item 7. Financial Statements and Financial Highlights for Open-End Management Investment Companies.

BNY Mellon Appreciation Fund, Inc.

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

December 31, 2025

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
Common Stocks — 99.3%		
Capital Goods — 4.5%		
BAE Systems PLC	1,488,195	34,212,135
Deere & Co.	43,355	20,184,788
Eaton Corp. PLC	109,510	34,880,030
		89,276,953
Commercial & Professional Services — 1.3%		
Automatic Data Processing, Inc.	60,925	15,671,738
Verisk Analytics, Inc.	47,995	10,736,001
		26,407,739
Consumer Discretionary Distribution & Retail — 7.1%		
Amazon.com, Inc. ^(a)	538,955	124,401,593
The Home Depot, Inc.	45,500	15,656,550
		140,058,143
Consumer Durables & Apparel — 2.9%		
Hermes International SCA	7,095	17,529,613
LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE	52,400	39,504,369
		57,033,982
Consumer Services — 2.9%		
Marriott International, Inc., Cl. A	63,800	19,793,312
McDonald's Corp.	119,875	36,637,396
		56,430,708
Energy — 3.4%		
Chevron Corp.	274,460	41,830,449
Exxon Mobil Corp.	210,200	25,295,468
		67,125,917
Financial Services — 14.0%		
Berkshire Hathaway, Inc., Cl. A ^(a)	50	37,740,000
Blackrock, Inc.	44,700	47,844,198
CME Group, Inc.	72,160	19,705,453
Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.	157,610	25,526,515
Mastercard, Inc., Cl. A	69,175	39,490,624
S&P Global, Inc.	89,657	46,853,852
Visa, Inc., Cl. A ^(b)	171,495	60,145,011
		277,305,653
Food, Beverage & Tobacco — 2.5%		
Philip Morris International, Inc.	185,310	29,723,724
The Coca-Cola Company	279,045	19,508,036
		49,231,760
Health Care Equipment & Services — 5.8%		
Abbott Laboratories	227,470	28,499,716
Intuitive Surgical, Inc. ^(a)	81,830	46,345,239
UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	118,070	38,976,088
		113,821,043
Insurance — 1.7%		
The Progressive Corp.	148,055	33,715,085
Materials — 1.0%		
The Sherwin-Williams Company	59,050	19,133,971

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (continued)

Description	Shares	Value (\$)
Common Stocks — 99.3% (continued)		
Media & Entertainment — 11.8%		
Alphabet, Inc., Cl. C	468,820	147,115,716
Meta Platforms, Inc., Cl. A	129,690	85,607,072
		232,722,788
Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology & Life Sciences — 3.2%		
AbbVie, Inc.	35,000	7,997,150
AstraZeneca PLC, ADR	320,045	29,421,737
Eli Lilly & Co.	24,335	26,152,338
		63,571,225
Real Estate Management & Development — 1.0%		
CoStar Group, Inc. ^(a)	290,475	19,531,539
Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment — 16.2%		
ASML Holding NV	61,265	65,544,973
NVIDIA Corp.	905,470	168,870,155
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. Ltd., ADR	210,740	64,041,778
Texas Instruments, Inc.	118,740	20,600,203
		319,057,109
Software & Services — 12.7%		
Intuit, Inc.	82,000	54,318,440
Microsoft Corp.	330,760	159,962,151
ServiceNow, Inc. ^(a)	234,475	35,919,225
		250,199,816
Technology Hardware & Equipment — 6.2%		
Apple, Inc.	453,700	123,342,882
Transportation — 1.1%		
Canadian Pacific Kansas City Ltd.	306,930	22,599,256
Total Common Stocks (cost \$760,043,721)		1,960,565,569
	1-Day Yield (%)	
Investment Companies — .6%		
Registered Investment Companies — .6%		
Dreyfus Institutional Preferred Government Plus Money Market Fund, Institutional Shares ^(c) (cost \$11,167,176)	3.89	11,167,176
		11,167,176
Total Investments (cost \$771,210,897)	99.9%	1,971,732,745
Cash and Receivables (Net)	.1%	2,751,275
Net Assets	100.0%	1,974,484,020

ADR—American Depositary Receipt

^(a) Non-income producing security.

^(b) Security, or portion thereof, on loan. At December 31, 2025, the value of the fund's securities on loan was \$59,543,544 and the value of the collateral was \$61,272,749, consisting of U.S. Government & Agency securities. In addition, the value of collateral may include pending sales that are also on loan.

^(c) Investment in affiliated issuer. The investment objective of this investment company is publicly available and can be found within the investment company's prospectus.

Affiliated Issuers					
Description	Value (\$) 12/31/2024	Purchases (\$) [†]	Sales (\$)	Value (\$) 12/31/2025	Dividends/ Distributions (\$)
Registered Investment Companies - .6%					
Dreyfus Institutional Preferred Government Plus Money Market Fund, Institutional Shares - .6%	10,777,664	278,608,523	(278,219,011)	11,167,176	469,294
Investment of Cash Collateral for Securities Loaned - .0%					
Dreyfus Institutional Preferred Government Plus Money Market Fund, Institutional Shares - .0%	-	20,337,922	(20,337,922)	-	41,229 ^{††}
Total - .6%	10,777,664	298,946,445	(298,556,933)	11,167,176	510,523

[†] Includes reinvested dividends/distributions.

^{††} Represents securities lending income earned from the reinvestment of cash collateral from loaned securities, net of fees and collateral investment expenses, and other payments to and from borrowers of securities.

See notes to financial statements.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

December 31, 2025

	Cost	Value	
Assets (\$):			
Investments in securities—See Schedule of Investments (including securities on loan, valued at \$59,543,544)—Note 1(c):			
Unaffiliated issuers	760,043,721	1,960,565,569	
Affiliated issuers	11,167,176	11,167,176	
Cash denominated in foreign currency	770,778	770,475	
Receivable for investment securities sold		3,118,670	
Tax reclaim receivable—Note 1(b)		671,477	
Dividends and securities lending income receivable		669,371	
Receivable for shares of Common Stock subscribed		206,543	
Prepaid expenses		26,622	
		1,977,195,903	
Liabilities (\$):			
Due to BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. and affiliates—Note 3(b)		970,886	
Due to Fayez Sarofim & Co., LLC		368,107	
Payable for shares of Common Stock redeemed		1,138,437	
Directors' fees and expenses payable		4,565	
Other accrued expenses		229,888	
		2,711,883	
Net Assets (\$)		1,974,484,020	
Composition of Net Assets (\$):			
Paid-in capital		748,940,076	
Total distributable earnings (loss)		1,225,543,944	
Net Assets (\$)		1,974,484,020	
Net Asset Value Per Share	Investor Shares	Class I	Class Y
Net Assets (\$)	1,605,470,122	223,619,605	145,394,293
Shares Outstanding	45,270,622	6,386,925	4,133,800
Net Asset Value Per Share (\$)	35.46	35.01	35.17

See notes to financial statements.

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Year Ended December 31, 2025

Investment Income (\$):	
Income:	
Cash dividends (net of \$563,304 foreign taxes withheld at source):	
Unaffiliated issuers	22,976,405
Affiliated issuers	469,294
Affiliated income net of rebates from securities lending—Note 1(c)	41,229
Interest	298
Total Income	23,487,226
Expenses:	
Management fee—Note 3(a)	6,818,819
Shareholder servicing costs—Note 3(b)	5,038,555
Sub-advisory fee—Note 3(a)	4,460,431
Directors' fees and expenses—Note 3(c)	181,262
Professional fees	109,099
Registration fees	71,460
Prospectus and shareholders' reports	48,853
Loan commitment fees—Note 2	48,177
Custodian fees—Note 3(b)	38,041
Chief Compliance Officer fees—Note 3(b)	25,951
Shareholder and regulatory reports service fees—Note 3(b)	16,167
Miscellaneous	33,426
Total Expenses	16,890,241
Less—reduction in fees due to earnings credits—Note 3(b)	(29,438)
Net Expenses	16,860,803
Net Investment Income	6,626,423
Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments—Note 4 (\$):	
Net realized gain (loss) on investments and foreign currency transactions	366,936,108
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments and foreign currency transactions	(175,825,005)
Net Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	191,111,103
Net Increase in Net Assets Resulting from Operations	197,737,526

See notes to financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2025	2024
Operations (\$):		
Net investment income	6,626,423	8,911,886
Net realized gain (loss) on investments	366,936,108	353,211,966
Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments	(175,825,005)	(92,678,068)
Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Resulting from Operations	197,737,526	269,445,784
Distributions (\$):		
Distributions to shareholders:		
Investor Shares	(294,300,307)	(262,739,427)
Class I	(44,672,309)	(48,921,192)
Class Y	(27,962,788)	(28,613,267)
Total Distributions	(366,935,404)	(340,273,886)
Capital Stock Transactions (\$):		
Net proceeds from shares sold:		
Investor Shares	22,111,502	27,624,785
Class I	37,368,415	52,230,385
Class Y	21,937,705	24,523,176
Distributions reinvested:		
Investor Shares	278,585,382	249,320,381
Class I	37,671,187	42,744,275
Class Y	26,694,647	27,132,603
Cost of shares redeemed:		
Investor Shares	(247,271,243)	(219,646,352)
Class I	(124,161,283)	(136,979,772)
Class Y	(69,337,283)	(55,215,203)
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets from Capital Stock Transactions	(16,400,971)	11,734,278
Total Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	(185,598,849)	(59,093,824)
Net Assets (\$):		
Beginning of Period	2,160,082,869	2,219,176,693
End of Period	1,974,484,020	2,160,082,869

	Year Ended December 31,	
	2025	2024
Capital Share Transactions (Shares):		
Investor Shares^(a)		
Shares sold	582,739	648,653
Shares issued for distributions reinvested	7,887,087	6,091,160
Shares redeemed	(6,324,072)	(5,073,226)
Net Increase (Decrease) in Shares Outstanding	2,145,754	1,666,587
Class I^(a)		
Shares sold	992,038	1,237,115
Shares issued for distributions reinvested	1,077,812	1,053,469
Shares redeemed	(3,215,038)	(3,213,586)
Net Increase (Decrease) in Shares Outstanding	(1,145,188)	(923,002)
Class Y		
Shares sold	564,333	565,686
Shares issued for distributions reinvested	760,870	666,720
Shares redeemed	(1,771,647)	(1,278,784)
Net Increase (Decrease) in Shares Outstanding	(446,444)	(46,378)

^(a) During the period ended December 31, 2025, 246 Investor shares representing \$10,039 were exchanged for 249 Class I shares and during the period ended December 31, 2024, 40,007 Investor shares representing \$1,715,652 were exchanged for 40,366 Class I shares.

See notes to financial statements.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The following tables describe the performance for each share class for the fiscal periods indicated. All information (except portfolio turnover rate) reflects financial results for a single fund share. Net asset value total return is calculated assuming an initial investment made at the net asset value at the beginning of the period, reinvestment of all dividends and distributions at net asset value during the period, and redemption at net asset value on the last day of the period. Net asset value total return includes adjustments in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and as such, the net asset value for financial reporting purposes and the returns based upon those net asset values may differ from the net asset value and returns for shareholder transactions.

Investor Shares	Year Ended December 31,				
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Per Share Data (\$):					
Net asset value, beginning of period	39.18	40.76	36.20	48.09	39.40
Investment Operations:					
Net investment income ^(a)	.11	.15	.25	.22	.17
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	3.66	5.06	7.34	(8.79)	10.40
Total from Investment Operations	3.77	5.21	7.59	(8.57)	10.57
Distributions:					
Dividends from net investment income	(.11)	(.15)	(.26)	(.23)	(.16)
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	(7.38)	(6.64)	(2.77)	(3.09)	(1.72)
Total Distributions	(7.49)	(6.79)	(3.03)	(3.32)	(1.88)
Net asset value, end of period	35.46	39.18	40.76	36.20	48.09
Total Return (%)	10.17	12.42	21.40	(17.95)	27.03
Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):					
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	.88	.88	.89	.88	.88
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	.87 ^(b)	.87 ^(b)	.87 ^(b)	.88 ^(b)	.88
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	.27 ^(b)	.33 ^(b)	.65 ^(b)	.55 ^(b)	.37
Portfolio Turnover Rate	13.42	12.56	3.76	9.01	4.43
Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)	1,605,470	1,689,759	1,690,039	1,514,145	2,025,070

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Amount inclusive of reduction in fees due to earnings credits.

See notes to financial statements.

Class I Shares	Year Ended December 31,				
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Per Share Data (\$):					
Net asset value, beginning of period	38.77	40.40	35.90	47.74	39.12
Investment Operations:					
Net investment income ^(a)	.20	.24	.34	.31	.26
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	3.62	5.02	7.28	(8.74)	10.34
Total from Investment Operations	3.82	5.26	7.62	(8.43)	10.60
Distributions:					
Dividends from net investment income	(.20)	(.25)	(.35)	(.32)	(.26)
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	(7.38)	(6.64)	(2.77)	(3.09)	(1.72)
Total Distributions	(7.58)	(6.89)	(3.12)	(3.41)	(1.98)
Net asset value, end of period	35.01	38.77	40.40	35.90	47.74
Total Return (%)	10.43	12.65	21.69	(17.77)	27.34
Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):					
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	.64	.65	.66	.66	.65
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	.64 ^(b)	.65 ^(b)	.66 ^(b)	.66 ^(b)	.65
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	.51 ^(b)	.56 ^(b)	.88 ^(b)	.77 ^(b)	.59
Portfolio Turnover Rate	13.42	12.56	3.76	9.01	4.43
Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)	223,620	292,055	341,607	303,603	423,979

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Amount inclusive of reduction in fees due to earnings credits.

See notes to financial statements.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

Class Y Shares	Year Ended December 31,				
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Per Share Data (\$):					
Net asset value, beginning of period	38.92	40.53	36.01	47.87	39.23
Investment Operations:					
Net investment income ^(a)	.22	.27	.37	.34	.29
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	3.64	5.03	7.29	(8.76)	10.36
Total from Investment Operations	3.86	5.30	7.66	(8.42)	10.65
Distributions:					
Dividends from net investment income	(.23)	(.27)	(.37)	(.35)	(.29)
Dividends from net realized gain on investments	(7.38)	(6.64)	(2.77)	(3.09)	(1.72)
Total Distributions	(7.61)	(6.91)	(3.14)	(3.44)	(2.01)
Net asset value, end of period	35.17	38.92	40.53	36.01	47.87
Total Return (%)	10.49	12.74	21.76	(17.70)	27.40
Ratios/Supplemental Data (%):					
Ratio of total expenses to average net assets	.58	.59	.59	.59	.59
Ratio of net expenses to average net assets	.58 ^(b)	.58 ^(b)	.59 ^(b)	.59 ^(b)	.59
Ratio of net investment income to average net assets	.56 ^(b)	.63 ^(b)	.94 ^(b)	.85 ^(b)	.66
Portfolio Turnover Rate	13.42	12.56	3.76	9.01	4.43
Net Assets, end of period (\$ x 1,000)	145,394	178,270	187,530	166,542	217,653

^(a) Based on average shares outstanding.

^(b) Amount inclusive of reduction in fees due to earnings credits.

See notes to financial statements.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1—Significant Accounting Policies:

BNY Mellon Appreciation Fund, Inc. (the “fund”), which is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “Act”), is a diversified open-end management investment company. The fund’s investment objective is to seek long-term capital growth consistent with the preservation of capital. Its secondary goal is current income. BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. (the “Adviser”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation (“BNY”), serves as the fund’s investment adviser. Fayeze Sarofim & Co., LLC (the “Sub-Adviser”), serves as the fund’s sub-adviser.

BNY Mellon Securities Corporation (the “Distributor”), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Adviser, is the distributor of the fund’s shares, which are sold without a sales charge. The fund is authorized to issue 500 million shares of \$.001 par value of Common Stock. The fund currently has authorized three classes of shares: Investor (300 million shares authorized), Class I (100 million shares authorized) and Class Y (100 million shares authorized). Investor shares are sold primarily to retail investors through financial intermediaries and bear Shareholder Services Plan fees. Class I shares are sold primarily to bank trust departments and other financial service providers (including BNY and its affiliates), acting on behalf of customers having a qualified trust or an investment account or relationship at such institution, and bear no Shareholder Services Plan fees. Class Y shares are sold at net asset value per share generally to institutional investors, and bear no Shareholder Service Plan fees. Other differences between the classes include the services offered to and the expenses borne by each class, the allocation of certain transfer agency costs and certain voting rights. Income, expenses (other than expenses attributable to a specific class), and realized and unrealized gains or losses on investments are allocated to each class of shares based on its relative net assets.

The Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) is the exclusive reference of authoritative U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”) recognized by the FASB to be applied by nongovernmental entities. Rules and interpretive releases of the SEC under authority of federal laws are also sources of authoritative GAAP for SEC registrants. The fund is an investment company and applies the accounting and reporting guidance of the FASB ASC Topic 946 Financial Services—Investment Companies. The fund’s financial statements are prepared in accordance with GAAP, which may require the use of management estimates and assumptions. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The fund enters into contracts that contain a variety of indemnifications. The fund’s maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown. The fund does not anticipate recognizing any loss related to these arrangements.

(a) Portfolio valuation: The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date (i.e., the exit price). GAAP establishes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs of valuation techniques used to measure fair value. This hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements).

Additionally, GAAP provides guidance on determining whether the volume and activity in a market has decreased significantly and whether such a decrease in activity results in transactions that are not orderly. GAAP requires enhanced disclosures around valuation inputs and techniques used during annual and interim periods.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the fund’s investments relating to fair value measurements. These inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below:

Level 1—unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical investments.

Level 2—other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar investments, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.).

Level 3—significant unobservable inputs (including the fund’s own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments).

The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities.

Changes in valuation techniques may result in transfers in or out of an assigned level within the disclosure hierarchy. Valuation techniques used to value the fund’s investments are as follows:

The fund’s Board of Directors (the “Board”) has designated the Adviser as the fund’s valuation designee to make all fair value determinations with respect to the fund’s portfolio investments, subject to the Board’s oversight and pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the Act.

Investments in equity securities are valued at the last sales price on the securities exchange or national securities market on which such securities are primarily traded. Securities listed on the National Market System for which market quotations are available are valued at

the official closing price or, if there is no official closing price that day, at the last sales price. For open short positions, asked prices are used for valuation purposes. Bid price is used when no asked price is available. Registered investment companies that are not traded on an exchange are valued at their net asset value. All of the preceding securities are generally categorized within Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy.

Securities not listed on an exchange or the national securities market, or securities for which there were no transactions, are valued at the average of the most recent bid and asked prices. These securities are generally categorized within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

Fair valuing of securities may be determined with the assistance of a pricing service using calculations based on indices of domestic securities and other appropriate indicators, such as prices of relevant ADRs and futures. Utilizing these techniques may result in transfers between Level 1 and Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

When market quotations or official closing prices are not readily available, or are determined not to accurately reflect fair value, such as when the value of a security has been significantly affected by events after the close of the exchange or market on which the security is principally traded (for example, a foreign exchange or market), but before the fund calculates its net asset value, the fund may value these investments at fair value as determined in accordance with the procedures approved by the Board. Certain factors may be considered when fair valuing investments such as: fundamental analytical data, the nature and duration of restrictions on disposition, an evaluation of the forces that influence the market in which the securities are purchased and sold, and public trading in similar securities of the issuer or comparable issuers. These securities are either categorized within Level 2 or 3 of the fair value hierarchy depending on the relevant inputs used.

For securities where observable inputs are limited, assumptions about market activity and risk are used and such securities are generally categorized within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

Investments denominated in foreign currencies are translated to U.S. dollars at the prevailing rates of exchange.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of December 31, 2025 in valuing the fund's investments:

	Level 1 - Unadjusted Quoted Prices	Level 2- Other Significant Observable Inputs	Level 3- Significant Unobservable Inputs	Total
Assets (\$)				
Investments in Securities: [†]				
Equity Securities - Common Stocks	1,869,319,452	91,246,117 ^{††}	—	1,960,565,569
Investment Companies	<u>11,167,176</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>11,167,176</u>
	<u>1,880,486,628</u>	<u>91,246,117</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,971,732,745</u>

[†] See Schedule of Investments for additional detailed categorizations, if any.

^{††} Securities classified within Level 2 at period end as the values were determined pursuant to the fund's fair valuation procedures.

(b) Foreign currency transactions: The fund does not isolate that portion of the results of operations resulting from changes in foreign exchange rates on investments from the fluctuations arising from changes in the market prices of securities held. Such fluctuations are included with the net realized and unrealized gain or loss on investments.

Net realized foreign exchange gains or losses arise from sales of foreign currencies, currency gains or losses realized on securities transactions between trade and settlement date, and the difference between the amounts of dividends, interest and foreign withholding taxes recorded on the fund's books and the U.S. dollar equivalent of the amounts actually received or paid. Net unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses arise from changes in the value of assets and liabilities other than investments resulting from changes in exchange rates. Foreign currency gains and losses on foreign currency transactions are also included with net realized and unrealized gain or loss on investments.

Foreign taxes: The fund may be subject to foreign taxes (a portion of which may be reclaimable) on income, stock dividends, realized and unrealized capital gains on investments or certain foreign currency transactions. Foreign taxes are recorded in accordance with the applicable foreign tax regulations and rates that exist in the foreign jurisdictions in which the fund invests. These foreign taxes, if any, are paid by the fund and are reflected in the Statement of Operations, if applicable. Foreign taxes payable or deferred or those subject to reclaims as of December 31, 2025, if any, are disclosed in the fund's Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

(c) Securities transactions and investment income: Securities transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. Realized gains and losses from securities transactions are recorded on the identified cost basis. Dividend income is recognized on the ex-dividend date and interest income, including, where applicable, accretion of discount and amortization of premium on investments, is recognized on the accrual basis.

Pursuant to a securities lending agreement with BNY, the fund may lend securities to qualified institutions. It is the fund's policy that, at origination, all loans are secured by collateral of at least 102% of the value of U.S. securities loaned and 105% of the value of foreign securities loaned. Collateral equivalent to at least 100% of the market value of securities on loan is maintained at all times. Collateral is either in the form of cash, which can be invested in certain money market mutual funds managed by the Adviser, or U.S. Government and Agency securities. Any non-cash collateral received cannot be sold or re-pledged by the fund, except in the event of borrower default, and is not reflected in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. The securities on loan, if any, are also disclosed in the fund's Schedule of Investments. The fund is entitled to receive all dividends, interest and distributions on securities loaned, in addition to income earned as a result of the lending transaction. Should a borrower fail to return the securities in a timely manner, BNY is required to replace the securities for the benefit of the fund or credit the fund with the market value of the unreturned securities and is subrogated to the fund's rights against the borrower and the collateral. Additionally, the contractual maturity of security lending transactions are on an overnight and continuous basis. During the period ended December 31, 2025, BNY earned \$5,659 from the lending of the fund's portfolio securities, pursuant to the securities lending agreement.

For financial reporting purposes, the fund elects not to offset assets and liabilities subject to a securities lending agreement, if any, in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Therefore, all qualifying transactions are presented on a gross basis in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities. As of December 31, 2025, the fund had securities lending and the impact of netting of assets and liabilities and the offsetting of collateral pledged or received, if any, based on contractual netting/set-off provisions in the securities lending agreement are detailed in the following table:

Assets (\$)

Gross amount of securities loaned, at value, as disclosed in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	59,543,544
Collateral (received)/posted not offset in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	(59,543,544) [†]
Net amount	-

[†] *The value of the related collateral received by the fund exceeded the value of the securities loaned by the fund pursuant to the securities lending agreement. In addition, the value of collateral may include pending sales that are also on loan. See Schedule of Investments for detailed information regarding collateral received for open securities lending.*

(d) Affiliated issuers: Investments in other investment companies advised by the Adviser are considered "affiliated" under the Act.

(e) Market Risk: The value of the securities in which the fund invests may be affected by political, regulatory, economic and social developments, and developments that impact specific economic sectors, industries or segments of the market. In addition, turbulence in financial markets and reduced liquidity in equity, credit and/or fixed-income markets may negatively affect many issuers, which could adversely affect the fund. Global economies and financial markets are becoming increasingly interconnected, and conditions and events in one country, region or financial market may adversely impact issuers in a different country, region or financial market. These risks may be magnified if certain events or developments adversely interrupt the global supply chain; in these and other circumstances, such risks might affect companies world-wide.

Foreign Investment Risk: To the extent the fund invests in foreign securities, the fund's performance will be influenced by political, social and economic factors affecting investments in foreign issuers. Special risks associated with investments in foreign issuers include exposure to currency fluctuations, less liquidity, less developed or less efficient trading markets, lack of comprehensive company information, political and economic instability and differing auditing and legal standards.

(f) Dividends and distributions to shareholders: Dividends and distributions are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Dividends from net investment income are normally declared and paid quarterly. Dividends from net realized capital gains, if any, are normally declared and paid annually, but the fund may make distributions on a more frequent basis to comply with the distribution requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). To the extent that net realized capital gains can be offset by capital loss

carryovers, it is the policy of the fund not to distribute such gains. Income and capital gain distributions are determined in accordance with income tax regulations, which may differ from GAAP.

(g) Federal income taxes: It is the policy of the fund to continue to qualify as a regulated investment company, if such qualification is in the best interests of its shareholders, by complying with the applicable provisions of the Code, and to make distributions of taxable income and net realized capital gain sufficient to relieve it from substantially all federal income and excise taxes.

As of and during the period ended December 31, 2025, the fund did not have any liabilities for any uncertain tax positions. The fund recognizes interest and penalties, if any, related to uncertain tax positions as income tax expense in the Statement of Operations. During the period ended December 31, 2025, the fund did not incur any interest or penalties.

Each tax year in the four-year period ended December 31, 2025 remains subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service and state taxing authorities.

At December 31, 2025, the components of accumulated earnings on a tax basis were as follows: undistributed ordinary income \$1,393,212, undistributed capital gains \$24,054,483 and unrealized appreciation \$1,200,096,249.

The tax character of distributions paid to shareholders during the fiscal years ended December 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024 were as follows: ordinary income \$6,611,387 and \$8,865,313, and long-term capital gains \$360,324,017 and \$331,408,573, respectively.

During the period ended December 31, 2025, as a result of permanent book to tax differences, primarily due to the tax treatment for treating a portion of the proceeds from redemptions as a distribution for tax purposes, the fund decreased total distributable earnings (loss) by \$31,809,026 and increased paid-in capital by the same amount. Net assets and net asset value per share were not affected by this reclassification.

(h) Operating segment reporting: In accordance with FASB Accounting Standards Update 2023-07, Segment Reporting (Topic 280) - Improvements to Reportable Segment Disclosures (“ASU 2023-07”), the fund has operated and been managed as a single reportable segment, generating returns through dividends, interest, and/or gains from investments aligned with its single stated investment objective as outlined in the fund’s prospectus. The fund’s accounting policies are consistent with those described in these Notes to Financial Statements. The chief operating decision maker (“CODM”) is represented by BNY Investments and is comprised of Senior Management and Directors of BNY Investments. The CODM considers the net increase in net assets resulting from operations when deciding whether to purchase additional investments or make distributions to shareholders. Detailed financial information for the fund is presented in these financial statements, including total assets and liabilities in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities, investments held in the Schedule of Investments, results of operations and significant segment expenses in the Statement of Operations, and additional performance information—such as total return, portfolio turnover, and ratios—in the Financial Highlights.

NOTE 2—Bank Lines of Credit:

The fund participates with other long-term open-end funds managed by the Adviser in a \$738 million unsecured credit facility led by Citibank, N.A. (the “Citibank Credit Facility”) and a \$300 million unsecured credit facility provided by BNY (the “BNY Credit Facility”), each to be utilized primarily for temporary or emergency purposes, including the financing of redemptions (each, a “Facility”). The Citibank Credit Facility is available in two tranches: (i) Tranche A is in an amount equal to \$618 million and is available to all long-term open-ended funds, including the fund, and (ii) Tranche B is an amount equal to \$120 million and is available only to BNY Mellon Floating Rate Income Fund, a series of BNY Mellon Investment Funds IV, Inc. In connection therewith, the fund has agreed to pay its pro rata portion of commitment fees for Tranche A of the Citibank Credit Facility and the BNY Credit Facility. Interest is charged to the fund based on rates determined pursuant to the terms of the respective Facility at the time of borrowing. During the period ended December 31, 2025, the fund did not borrow under either Facility.

NOTE 3—Management Fee, Sub-Advisory Fee and Other Transactions with Affiliates:

(a) Pursuant to an investment advisory agreement with the Adviser, the management fee is computed at the annual rate of .3325% of the value of the fund’s average daily net assets. Pursuant to a sub-investment advisory agreement with the Sub-Adviser, the fund pays the Sub-Adviser a monthly sub-advisory fee at the annual rate of .2175% of the value of the fund’s average daily net assets. Both fees are payable monthly.

(b) Under the Shareholder Services Plan, Investor shares pay the Distributor at an annual rate of .25% of its average daily net assets for the provision of certain services. The services provided may include personal services relating to shareholder accounts, such as answering shareholder inquiries regarding the fund, and services related to the maintenance of shareholder accounts. The Distributor may make

payments to Service Agents (securities dealers, financial institutions or other industry professionals) with respect to these services. The Distributor determines the amounts to be paid to Service Agents. During the period ended December 31, 2025, the fund was charged \$4,078,730 pursuant to the Shareholder Services Plan.

The fund has an arrangement with BNY Mellon Transfer, Inc., (the “Transfer Agent”), a subsidiary of BNY and an affiliate of the Adviser, whereby the fund may receive earnings credits when positive cash balances are maintained, which are used to offset Transfer Agent fees. For financial reporting purposes, the fund includes transfer agent net earnings credits, if any, as an expense offset in the Statement of Operations.

The fund has an arrangement with The Bank of New York Mellon (the “Custodian”), a subsidiary of BNY and an affiliate of the Adviser, whereby the fund will receive interest income or be charged overdraft fees when cash balances are maintained. For financial reporting purposes, the fund includes this interest income and overdraft fees, if any, as interest income in the Statement of Operations.

The fund compensates the Transfer Agent, under a transfer agency agreement, for providing transfer agency and cash management services for the fund. The majority of Transfer Agent fees are comprised of amounts paid on a per account basis, while cash management fees are related to fund subscriptions and redemptions. During the period ended December 31, 2025, the fund was charged \$162,225 for transfer agency services. These fees are included in Shareholder servicing costs in the Statement of Operations. These fees were partially offset by earnings credits of \$29,438.

The fund compensates the Custodian, under a custody agreement, for providing custodial services for the fund. These fees are determined based on net assets, geographic region and transaction activity. During the period ended December 31, 2025, the fund was charged \$38,041 pursuant to the custody agreement.

During the period ended December 31, 2025, the fund was charged \$25,951 for services performed by the fund’s Chief Compliance Officer and his staff. These fees are included in Chief Compliance Officer fees in the Statement of Operations.

The fund compensates the Custodian for providing shareholder reporting and regulatory services for the fund. These fees are included in Shareholder and regulatory reports service fees in the Statement of Operations. During the period ended December 31, 2025, the Custodian was compensated \$16,167 for financial reporting and regulatory services.

The components of “Due to BNY Mellon Investment Adviser, Inc. and affiliates” in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities consist of: Management fee of \$562,738, Shareholder Services Plan fees of \$342,555, Custodian fees of \$7,500, Chief Compliance Officer fees of \$5,318, Transfer Agent fees of \$43,275 and Shareholder and regulatory reports service fees of \$9,500.

(c) Each board member of the fund also serves as a board member of other funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds complex. Annual retainer fees and attendance fees are allocated to each fund based on net assets.

NOTE 4—Securities Transactions:

The aggregate amount of purchases and sales of investment securities, excluding short-term securities, during the period ended December 31, 2025, amounted to \$275,103,007 and \$656,164,401, respectively.

At December 31, 2025, the cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$771,638,391; accordingly, accumulated net unrealized appreciation on investments was \$1,200,094,354, consisting of \$1,210,060,722 gross unrealized appreciation and \$9,966,368 gross unrealized depreciation.

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Shareholders and the Board of Directors of BNY Mellon Appreciation Fund, Inc.

Opinion on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of BNY Mellon Appreciation Fund, Inc. (the “Fund”), including the schedule of investments, as of December 31, 2025, 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, the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended and the related notes (collectively referred to as the “financial statements”). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund at December 31, 2025, 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 its financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Basis for Opinion

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Fund’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Fund’s financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (“PCAOB”) and are required to be independent with respect to the Fund in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Fund is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of the Fund’s internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits, we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting 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.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of December 31, 2025, by correspondence with the custodian, brokers and others; when replies were not received from brokers and others, we performed other auditing procedures. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Ernst + Young LLP

We have served as the auditor of one or more investment companies in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds since at least 1957, but we are unable to determine the specific year.

New York, New York
February 20, 2026

IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION (Unaudited)

For federal tax purposes, the fund hereby reports 100% of the ordinary dividends paid during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2025 as qualifying for the corporate dividends received deduction. Also, certain dividends paid by the fund may be subject to a maximum tax rate of 15%, as provided for by the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003. Of the distributions paid during the fiscal year, \$6,611,387 represents the maximum amount that may be considered qualified dividend income. Shareholders will receive notification in early 2026 of the percentage applicable to the preparation of their 2025 income tax returns. The fund also hereby reports \$.9258 per share as a long-term capital gain distribution paid on March 31, 2025 and \$6.4552 per share as a long-term capital gain distribution paid on December 16, 2025.

Item 8. Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants for Open-End Management Investment Companies (Unaudited)

N/A

Item 9. Proxy Disclosures for Open-End Management Investment Companies (Unaudited)

N/A

Item 10. Remuneration Paid to Directors, Officers, and Others of Open-End Management Investment Companies (Unaudited)

Each board member also serves as a board member of other funds in the BNY Mellon Family of Funds complex, and annual retainer fees and meeting attendance fees are allocated to each fund based on net assets. The fund is charged for services performed by the fund's Chief Compliance Officer. Compensation paid by the fund during the period to the board members and the Chief Compliance Officer are within Item 7. Statement of Operations as Directors' fees and expenses and Chief Compliance Officer fees, respectively. The aggregate amount of Directors' fees and expenses and Chief Compliance Officer fees paid by the fund during the period was \$207,213.

Item 11. Statement Regarding Basis for Approval of Investment Advisory Contracts (Unaudited)

N/A

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