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Nuveen Core Equity Alpha Fund
Form NSAR-A
August 29, 2013

PAGE 1
000 A000000 06/30/2013
000 C000000 0001385763
000 D000000 N
000 E000000 NF
000 F000000 Y
000 G000000 N
000 H000000 N
000 I000000 6.1
000 J000000 A
001 A000000 NUVEEN CORE EQUITY ALPHA FUND
001 B000000 811-220003
001 C000000 3129178200
002 A000000 333 WEST WACKER DRIVE
002 B000000 CHICAGO
002 C000000 IL
002 D010000 60606
002 D020000 1286
003 000000 N
004 000000 N
005 000000 N
006 000000 N
007 A000000 N
007 B000000 0
007 C010100 1
008 A000001 NUVEEN FUND ADVISORS, LLC
008 B000001 A
008 C000001 801-14147
008 D010001 CHICAGO
008 D020001 IL
008 D030001 60606
008 D040001 1286
008 A000002 ENHANCED INVESTMENT TECHNOLOGIES (INTECH)
008 B000002 A
008 C000002 801-60987
008 D010002 PALM BEACH GARDENS
008 D020002 FL
008 D030002 33410
012 A000001 COMPUTERSHARE
012 B000001 84-05925
012 C010001 PROVIDENCE
012 C020001 RI
012 C030001 02940
013 A000001 PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP
013 B010001 CHICAGO
013 B020001 IL
013 B030001 60606
014 A000001 NUVEEN INVESTMENTS, LLC
014 B000001 8-13464
015 A000001 STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY
015 B000001 C
015 C010001 BOSTON
PAGE 2
015 C020001 MA
015 C030001 02110
015 E010001 X
018 000000 Y
019 A000000 Y
019 B000000 211

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019 C000000 NUVEENFUND
020 A000001 JEFFERIES & CO
020 B000001 95-2622900
020 C000001 20
020 A000002 SANFORD BERNSTEIN
020 B000002 13-2625874
020 C000002 15
020 A000003 INSTINET CORP
020 B000003 13-3443395
020 C000003 12
020 A000004 MERRILL LYNCH
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020 A000005 WEEDEN + CO.
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020 C000006 4
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020 A000010 GUZMAN & CO
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020 C000010 0
021 000000 69
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PAGE 3
022 C000004 8388
022 D000004 15531
022 A000005 WEEDEN & CO
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022 B000007 13-3356934
022 C000007 1700
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| 028 | E010000 | 0 |
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| 028 | G010000 | 0 |
| 028 | G020000 | 0 |
| 028 | G030000 | 0 |
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| 036 | B000000 | 0 |

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038 000000 0
 042 A000000 0
 042 B000000 0
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 042 D000000 0
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 042 F000000 0
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 051 000000 N
 052 000000 Y
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 054 I000000 N
 054 J000000 Y
 054 K000000 N
 054 L000000 N
 054 M000000 Y
 054 N000000 N
 054 O000000 Y
 055 A000000 N
 055 B000000 N
 056 000000 Y
 057 000000 N

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058 A000000 N
059 000000 Y
060 A000000 Y
060 B000000 Y
061 000000 0
062 A000000 N
062 B000000 0.0
062 C000000 0.0
062 D000000 0.0
062 E000000 0.0
062 F000000 0.0
062 G000000 0.0
062 H000000 0.0
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062 J000000 0.0
PAGE 6
062 K000000 0.0
062 L000000 0.0
062 M000000 0.0
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062 P000000 0.0
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062 R000000 0.0
063 A000000 0
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066 B000000 N
066 C000000 N
066 D000000 N
066 E000000 N
066 F000000 N
066 G000000 Y
067 000000 N
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068 B000000 N
069 000000 N
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070 K020000 N
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070 M010000 Y

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| | | | |
|-------|---------|---|--------|
| 070 | M020000 | N | |
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| 070 | N020000 | N | |
| 070 | O010000 | Y | |
| 070 | O020000 | N | |
| | PAGE | 7 | |
| 070 | P010000 | N | |
| 070 | P020000 | N | |
| 070 | Q010000 | N | |
| 070 | Q020000 | N | |
| 070 | R010000 | Y | |
| 070 | R020000 | N | |
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| 072 | C000000 | | 2314 |
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| 072 | F000000 | | 1164 |
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| 072 | O000000 | | 0 |
| 072 | P000000 | | 0 |
| 072 | Q000000 | | 0 |
| 072 | R000000 | | 15 |
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| 072 | T000000 | | 0 |
| 072 | U000000 | | 0 |
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| 072 | W000000 | | 60 |
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| 072 | Y000000 | | 0 |
| 072 | Z000000 | | 991 |
| 072AA | 000000 | | 15352 |
| 072BB | 000000 | | 0 |
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| 072CC | 020000 | | 0 |
| 072DD | 010000 | | 8651 |
| 072DD | 020000 | | 0 |
| 072EE | 000000 | | 0 |
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| 074 | C000000 | | 2500 |
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| | PAGE | 8 | |
| 074 | E000000 | | 0 |
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| 074 | H000000 | | 0 |

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| | | |
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| 074 | J000000 | 0 |
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| 074 | O000000 | 0 |
| 074 | P000000 | 198 |
| 074 | Q000000 | 0 |
| 074 | R010000 | 0 |
| 074 | R020000 | 0 |
| 074 | R030000 | 233 |
| 074 | R040000 | 4300 |
| 074 | S000000 | 0 |
| 074 | T000000 | 259536 |
| 074 | U010000 | 16022 |
| 074 | U020000 | 0 |
| 074 | V010000 | 16.20 |
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| 074 | Y000000 | 263659 |
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| 075 | B000000 | 255980 |
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| 081 | B000000 | 0 |
| 082 | B000000 | 0 |
| 083 | B000000 | 0 |
| 084 | B000000 | 0 |
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| 086 | A020000 | 0 |
| 086 | B010000 | 0 |
| 086 | B020000 | 0 |
| 086 | C010000 | 0 |
| 086 | C020000 | 0 |
| 086 | D010000 | 0 |
| 086 | D020000 | 0 |
| 086 | E010000 | 0 |
| 086 | E020000 | 0 |
| 086 | F010000 | 0 |
| 086 | F020000 | 0 |
| 087 | A010000 | COMMON STOCK |
| 087 | A020000 | 67090X107 |
| 087 | A030000 | JCE |

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| | | |
|-----|---------|---|
| 088 | A000000 | N |
| 088 | B000000 | N |
| 088 | C000000 | N |
| 088 | D000000 | N |

SIGNATURE STEPHEN D. FOY
TITLE V.P. & CONTROLLER