

# Drs. Joe and Stella Evangelista

Parents of the Year (Tahanan Award for Outstanding Parents)

## *The Pride and Joy of Parenthood*

*Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it. Proverbs 22:6*

Parenting is a commitment most adults make at some point in their lives. Ordinarily, they do so after marriage and, in partnership with their spouses but times have changed and so did the concept of parenting. Today, many single parents or same sex parents decide to raise their child or children with or without the benefit of marriage, and in highly unorthodox ways. In many instances, traditional parenting

seems to have taken a back seat to the emerging culture of liberal parenting in the new millennium.

Gintong Pamana's Outstanding Parents of the Year, Drs. Joe and Stella Evangelista, most likely didn't have to deal with any such unconventional concepts of raising their children. No kidding, they already broke the family size convention by having twice or thrice the number of children other couples were willing to raise. But whatever doubts other people had then will have been gone years ago, when the Evangelistas, dad, mom and kids all did exceedingly well in life, career and other pursuits.

Today, Drs. Joe and Stella Evangelista proved to all that chasing their dream of a successful career, financial freedom and community service didn't have to happen at the expense of a larger family. Their children, all six of them, turned out to be the adults they have dreamed of becoming. Cristy, the eldest, is a real estate developer and certified property manager. Edmund graduated from Tufts University Medicine, Physical Medicine Rehabilitation, and specializes in Spine and Pain Management. Marcus, JD, MBA, CPA graduated from the University of Michigan and Boston College of Law. Jose III graduated from Tufts University Medicine, Internal Medicine at Yale, Pulmonary, Critical Care fellowship at the University of California San Diego and Hyperbaric fellowship at UC San Diego. Maristella, MD/MBA from Tufts University Medicine is a Fellow in Plastic Surgery at University of California Irvine. Finally, Augustus Peter, the youngest of the siblings, is currently a Fellow in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. Peter, who was president of his class 2011 in Tufts for 4 years, also delivered the Student Address at the Commencement Exercise.

Indeed, the saying "the apple doesn't fall far from the tree" can't be any more relevant than it is in Drs. Joe and Stella Evangelista's life.

As a team, they have been and always will be a formidable tandem. Individually, however, they have demonstrated their strengths just as well. Both Joe and Stella excelled academically. Joe graduated Valedictorian in elementary and high school and Summa Cum Laude in B.S. Pre-Medicine and Zoology. Stella graduated Salutatorian from elementary, high school and Pre-med and Doctor of Medicine Benemeritus.

Dr. Joe is Board Certified in Internal Medicine, Cardiology, Cardiovascular Diseases and in Sleep Medicine. Dr. Stella is Board Certified in Pediatrics. Dr. Joe has been appointed to the following medical positions: Chief of Staff of St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, Michigan, President of Livonia





Diagnostic Center, Fellow in American College of Cardiology, American College of Chest Physicians, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons and American College of Sleep Medicine.

Dr. Stella on the other hand, was appointed Chief of Pediatrics at St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia, Michigan. She was also appointed member of the Michigan State Board of Medicine for 8 years by Governor James Blanchard of Michigan and became the first Filipino to hold that position. She was also a member of the Michigan State Board of Pharmacy and more recently, the Medical Director and Administrator of Maple Manor Rehab Center.

Both are well known in their community and are highly respected by their peers, electing them to positions of importance and responsibility. Dr. Joe Evangelista, who currently serves as Philippine Honorary Consul General in Detroit, Michigan, had been elected president of the Association of Philippine Physicians in America, USTMAA Michigan and USTMAA Midwest. He also served as the founding president of Michigan Circulo Pampangueno. Joe was appointed by President Bill Clinton as member of the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation and became a delegate to the Democratic National Convention.

Dt. Stella Evangelista has been the Executive Director of USTMAA Foundation since 1987 and was its president in 1998-1999. She was the first woman to be elected president of the Association of Philippine Physicians in America (APPA). She became a member of the Congressional Asian American Pacific Caucus and like her husband, was one of the privileged delegates to the Democratic National Convention. She serves as President of JS Evangelista Development Company where husband Joe sits as CEO.

These trailblazing couple have not been short on awards and recognition either. Having been in the spotlight in many important community events, they reaped awards from various organizations with Gintong Pamana being one of them. Dr. Joe was honored with the Kamanyang Award in Medicine and Dr. Stella, with the Prism Award for Women of Style and Achievements. Together, husband and wife had been inducted to the International Heritage Hall of Fame in Metro Detroit, the first Filipino and first couple to be given such honor in its 84 year history.

Both couple have also, each, received the THOMAS Award for Leadership and Most Outstanding Alumnus of the Year awards from USTMAAA, Physician of the Year Award from APPA, Philippine President's awards: Banaag Award for Outstanding Filipinos Overseas to Dr. Joe from Pres. Fidel V. Ramos and Linkapil Award to Dr. Stella, from Pres. Gloria Arroyo. Recognizing the breath of service and contributions the couple has made to their country and alma mater, the University of Santo Tomas honored them with the TOTAL Award, The Outstanding Thomasian Alumni Award for Medicine and Health. In addition, Dr. Joe Evangelista was named "One of the 400 Outstanding Alumni of the University of Santo Tomas," whereas, Dr. Stella Evangelista received the Quadricentennial Award for Exemplary Service to the University given by Rev. Fr. Rolando dela Rosa.

Dr. Stella received the World Medical Relief's "Above Self Award" and the Kiwanis International Service Award for Kiwanis Iodine program, whereas, Dr. Joe was honored with a National President's award and Flag Award for Outstanding Leadership by the Michigan State Medical Society. He also received the Most Outstanding Pampagueno Award for Medicine and for Humanitarian Services.

The ongoing journey Drs. Joe and Stella Evangelista have embarked together in pursuit of their dreams for themselves and their children is a testimonial to the power of true love and unwavering commitment. It's true love for each other, who have been classmates for 44 wonderful years, for their 6 children and 3 grandchildren and for their community. Above all, the thread that holds them together is their faith and love of God. Finally, it's their unwavering commitment to the pursuit of excellence in everything they do that brought them to where they are.

What better way to cap this profile than a quote from French philosopher, Voltaire.

How pleasant it is for a father to sit at his child's board. It is like an aged man reclining under the shadow of an oak which he has planted.

Drs. Joe and Stella Evangelista maybe a long way yet to complete retirement, but when it comes, they know without a hint of doubt that like a strong oak tree, their children will provide the shade under which these travelers can comfortably recline.

# Cristy Evangelista Costello, CPM, BSE

**C**risty is the Chief Operating Officer of Evangelista Development and President of Evangelista Properties since 1988. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from Pepperdine University and also has her real estate Brokers License in Michigan and Florida.

In 1995, Cristy received the National Leadership Award and became a member of the Business Advisory Council for former President George W. Bush.

Cristy sees her proudest accomplishment in raising her 3 sons ages 5, 3, and 2 and hope that they follow in the footsteps of their successful grandparents in the medical field. "Most of all, she says, 'I strive to be the wife to my husband and mother to my sons that my mom Dr. Stella has been, the most loving and intelligent woman I know.'"

Cristy is married to Kelly Costello, a Graduate of Rutgers University, major in Economics. He currently works for Wells Fargo Investment Advisors in Birmingham, Michigan.



# Augustus Peter S. Evangelista, MD, MBA

**P**eter Evangelista, the youngest of the Evangelista children, graduated MD/MBA from Tufts University School of Medicine. He was President of his Class 2011 for 4 years. His most memorable accomplishment was delivering the class presidential address during his graduation from medical school.

Peter now attends the Mayo Clinic and is a resident physician in the field of Rehab Medicine. During his free time, Peter greatly enjoys running, swimming, traveling, and boating in Florida with his family.



# Marcus Evangelista

Attorney at Law CPA, MBA, ESQ

**O**f the six Evangelista siblings, Marcus is evidently the one with his feet firmly planted in the Filipino American community, specifically, the FilAm community of Michigan. It wasn't because he was raised differently by his parents, Drs. Joe and Stella Evangelista for all of these children grew up in the midst of their parents' active community and medical organizations' leadership and involvement. But his chosen career which put him in close contact with the Filipinos has positioned him as the most likely heir to his parents' legacy as community leaders.

Marcus Evangelista is an emerging young leader with passion for service in the Filipino and Asian communities. He is currently General Counsel for the UST Medical Alumni Association and he assists with medical missions, foundation activities and legal and tax issues. Marcus also assists the Philippine Honorary Consulate with consular and immigration affairs in Detroit. Marcus serves as a Board of Director of Michigan Circulo Pampangueno.

Marcus is an Attorney, CPA and MBA. He was prepared at Cranbrook High School graduating with Honors. He then attended the Michigan Business School (BBA) graduating with Distinction, as well as, Boston College Law School (JD/MBA) graduating in the Honor Society of Beta Gamma Sigma. Marcus was awarded Most Persuasive Speaker and he won a partial scholarship for winning Business Consulting Competi-



tion in the MBA program. Marcus was also a Representative on the Michigan Student Government, Orientation Leader for new students, and an Account Executive for the Michigan Daily Newspaper. Recently, Marcus received the TOYAAM Award as one of the Top 12 Outstanding Young Asian Americans by the National Federation of Filipino Associations.

**Past Work Experience** Marcus is very well-rounded with diverse work experience in the law, politics and business. Marcus worked at the prestigious law firm of Dickinson Wright. He also worked for Arthur Anderson which was one of the largest accounting firms in the world.

Marcus served as a Law Clerk at the Office of Attorney General as well as the Michigan Supreme Court. He also had the unique opportunity to work for President Bill Clinton at the National Campaign Headquarters in Little Rock Arkansas and in the White House for the President's Chief of Staff.

**Current Work Experience** - Currently, Marcus is Corporate Counsel for Maple Manor Rehab Center and Evangelista Development. Marcus handles all legal, financial and business matters. He manages 150 employees and he is responsible for a mid-sized real estate portfolio of offices, apartments, condos, shopping centers, medical and nursing facilities.

Marcus also has his own law firm specializing in real estate, construction, business, health care, employment, litigation and immigration. Marcus handles all immigration petitions and sponsorships for nurses and therapists to work at the Evangelista companies.

**Personal** - Marcus' favorite pastime is Salsa and Ballroom Dancing. He occasionally hosts a Filipino/Asian dance party "Shanghai Night." Marcus enjoys sports and he was elected Captain of the football, wrestling and lacrosse teams. Marcus always makes time to socialize with friends. He was elected Social Chairman of his fraternity. He was also elected as Homecoming King.



# Jose S. Evangelista III, MD

**J**ose, just like his other three siblings, graduated from Tufts University School of Medicine. He obtained his Fellowships in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine and in Hyperbaric and Dive Medicine from the University of California, San Diego and his residency in Internal Medicine from Yale New Haven Hospital. Jose is Board Certified in Internal Medicine through 2018 and in Pulmonary Disease through 2021.

As a student, Jose was consistently in the honors class and in Golden Key National Honor Society and in Delta Epsilon Iota, Alpha Kappa Delta International Sociology Honors Society. In Medical School, he received Clinical Honors in Internal Medicine and Pre-Clinical Honors in Neuroscience.

Between 1998 to 2009, Jose was a Medical Volunteer for Flying Samaritans of Palomar, California, assisting physicians during their Medical Mission trips to rural Mexico. He was also a Hospitalist at Yale New Haven Hospital Medical Services in New Haven, Connecticut, an Attending

Physician and Clinical Instructor.

Jose is a Certified Advanced Open Water SCUBA Diver and a member of DAN (Driver's Alert Network). He is also interested in chess, surfing and lacrosse.



# Maristella Evangelista, MD, MBA

**M**aristella Evangelista MD, MBA is a Plastic Surgeon. She was Chief Resident in Plastic Surgery at the University of California in Irvine and she was voted Most Outstanding Surgical Resident of the Year.

She is the Chairperson of the American Medical Association Resident Section.

Maristella graduated from the University of Michigan with honors and from Tufts University School of Medicine with honors.. She was also the Class President at Sacred Heart High School. Maristella enjoys scuba diving.



# Edmund S. Evangelista, MD



**D**r. Evangelista specializes in physical medicine and rehabilitation with subspecialty training in the non-surgical treatment of spine conditions, interventional pain management and sports medicine. His long list of academic training and experience include the following:

- \* Diplomate, American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- \* Board Certified, Subspecialty of Sports Medicine
- \* Board Certified, Subspecialty of Pain Medicine
- \* Fellowship Trained in Orthopedic Spine and Sports Medicine
- \* Fellow, American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- \* Fellow, Physiatric Association of Spine, Sports and Occupational Rehabilitation

#### Rehabilitation

- \* Member, North American Spine Society
- \* Member, International Spine Intervention Society
- \* Member, Surfer's Medical Association
- \* Member, Orange County Medical Association
- \* Member, California Medical Association

Dr. Evangelista earned his Bachelor's degree from Boston College, where he graduated cum laude and received his Doctor of Medicine degree from Tufts University School of Medicine in 1996. He completed an internship at Boston University/Malden Hospital and a residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at UC Irvine Medical Center in 2000, where he was given the Outstanding Resident Achievement Award. He

also completed a one year Orthopedic Spine and Sports Fellowship at Beth Israel Medical Center in New York City. During his fellowship, Dr. Evangelista received specialty training in non-operative spine care, interventional pain management and he provided consultation services to amateur and professional athletes.

Dr. Evangelista is board certified in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, as well as the subspecialties of sports medicine and pain medicine. He specializes in the non-surgical management of spine and general musculoskeletal disorders, concentrating on spine disorders, interventional pain management and sports medicine. He also performs EMG/nerve conduction studies.

Just recently, Dr. Ed was selected as one of Southern California's "Top Doctors" by Castle Connolly in 2012. He currently serves as team physician for Tesoro High School. He also volunteers his time for Disabled Sports USA-Orange County where he serves as Medical Advisor as well as volunteer ski instructor for the disabled.

An avid surfer, Dr. Ed spends his leisure time surfing. His passion for the sport takes him to many of the world's exotic surf destinations. He also enjoys skiing, snowboarding, roller hockey and travelling.

