

**PRESENTATION FOR  
youthbusiness : ALLIANCE  
BY GAILE ROMANES**

# INTRODUCTION

- My name is GAILE ROMANES.
- I work for WANDERLUST CREATIVES.
- With my husband, Jei, I do WEDDING AND PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY.
- I am a PHOTOGRAPHER and the BUSINESS MANAGER for our company. But I also work part-time in a healthcare company.
- I photograph/post-process weddings, engagements, and family portraits. I also handle the business aspect of our photography business.

# MY CHILDHOOD

I was born and raised in MANILA, PHILIPPINES.



This is a picture of me at about 10 years old.

# MY FAMILY

- Eldest of 4 kids
- Lived in the outskirts of Metro Manila
- Typical Filipino middle-class family
- Parents separated when I was in College
- “reach for the American Dream”



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# MY HIGH SCHOOL

I attended Manila Science High School in  
Taft Ave. Manila, Philippines



# MY HIGH SCHOOL

- When I entered high school, I was a bit shy, quite geeky, but not very confident with academics.

I was slightly culture-shocked.

- By my Junior year, I've become more outgoing, confident, did better in school, made life-long friends, and felt ready for the real world.



# MY HIGH SCHOOL

## THINGS THAT I REALLY ENJOYED IN HS

- MATH, PHYSICS, and ENGLISH
- Performing Arts: Music and Speech Choir
- Senior Year: Research/Thesis
- Leadership Camps
- Hanging out at McDonald's before the long commute home
- Going to the Mall and playing at the Arcade on the last day of exam week

# MY HIGH SCHOOL

## THINGS THAT WERE DIFFICULT FOR ME IN HS

- **SOCIAL STUDIES: History, Geography, PolSci**
- **Athletics/Sports**
- **My 1 hour+ commute (each way) to school via Public Transportation**
- **Stressful family/home situation**
- **Pressures on what path to take after High School (the American Dream vs My Dream)**

# GETTING INTO COLLEGE

What I did to make sure I got into college:

- Made sure my GPA met the university minimums
- Reviewed for the entrance exams \*MAJOR\*
- Attended leadership camps/conventions to meet alumni from universities I applied to
- Honed my creative writing skills

# COLLEGE

I ATTENDED COLLEGE IN

The University of the  
Philippines – Manila

and finished with a

Bachelor of Science in  
Nursing



# COLLEGE

## THINGS I ENJOYED

- Having a new set of friends
- Extra-curricular Organizations and Clubs
- Hands-on community work
- Opportunity for networking

## THINGS I DIDN'T ENJOY

- A lot of self-study and required reading
- Clinical duty
- A LOT of technical writing
- Barely ANY sleep

# COLLEGE

## FAVORITE CLASSES

- MATH
- ARTS
- PE
- Parasitology
- Community Nursing
- Psychology
- Clinical Management

## \*not\* FAVE CLASSES

- Organic Chemistry
- Clinical Nursing
- Pathophysiology
- Nursing Obstetrics
- Pediatric Nursing

# **COLLEGE**

## **DIFFICULTIES WHILE IN COLLEGE**

- **Limited financial resources**
- **Being away from my family**
- **Not very passionate about my major**
- **Physical Health**
- **Pressures about moving to the US**

# **GETTING A JOB AFTER COLLEGE**

## **THINGS I DID TO MAKE SURE I GOT EMPLOYED AS A NURSE AFTER COLLEGE**

- **Passed the Board Exam**
- **Interned with the Philippine Board of Nursing**

## **THINGS I DID TO PURSUE MY PASSIONS**

- **Self-taught myself the basics of running a business; and then started my own retail biz**
- **Joined a performing arts group**



# **TRANSITION FROM NURSING TO PHOTOGRAPHY**

**THINGS I REALIZED AFTER COLLEGE,  
WHILE LIVING AND SUPPORTING MYSELF**

- I don't see myself being an employee forever**
- I like being passionate about something**
- One thing I definitely see in my future is being married and having kids**
- When I put my heart and head into something, I almost always get it**

# TRANSITION FROM NURSING TO PHOTOGRAPHY TIMELINE

- April 2010 – moved to the US and started working in Home Health
- May 2010 – met Jei (now my husband) and found a common interest in photography
- Mar 2014 – while planning our wedding, we officially started Wanderlust Creatives
- May 2014 – got married; Sept 2015 – had a kid (Stellan)
- January 2018 – started transitioning from being a full-time employee to being a full-time photographer/business owner

# ACTIVITY

**Guess where.**

































SANDEMAN











# **WANDERLUST**

Creatives

# WANDERLUST CREATIVES

[www.wanderlustcreatives.com](http://www.wanderlustcreatives.com)

- **WHO:** Jei and Gaile Romanes
- **WHAT:** Wedding and Portrait Photography
- **WHEN:** Started on Mar 2014
- **WHERE:** Los Angeles and Worldwide
- **WHY:** We are passionate about the arts, we love the process of creating, we like working outside an office, we love being able to spend more quality time with our family; we love meeting people of different backgrounds, gaining new experiences, and traveling.  
**BONUS:** it pays pretty well.
- **HOW:** 5-year plan; establish short- and long-term goals

# WANDERLUST CREATIVES

## PROS

- 1) I own my time
- 2) Doing something creative (it's different every time)
- 3) Opportunity to meet people  
ie Networking
- 4) Work-cation
- 5) "Glory of the byline"
- 6) I am my own boss

## CONS

- 1) A lot of hard work: "Work 80-hour weeks to leave a 40-hour job"
- 2) Need for expensive equipment
- 3) Delayed Gratification
- 4) Criticism from Family/Friends
- 5) No Sick Days



# WANDERLUST CREATIVES

GAILE

- PHOTOGRAPHER
- EDITOR
- **BUSINESS MANAGER**

JEI

- PHOTOGRAPHER
- EDITOR
- **CREATIVE DIRECTOR**

# WANDERLUST CREATIVES

- **NEWBIES: FREE to \$500**
- **With a decent portfolio: \$500 to \$1000**
- **Full-time and with pre-booked weddings: up to \$5000**
- **(Insta-)FAMOUS: \$7000 and above**

# **WANDERLUST CREATIVES**

**Here are some of our recent work**











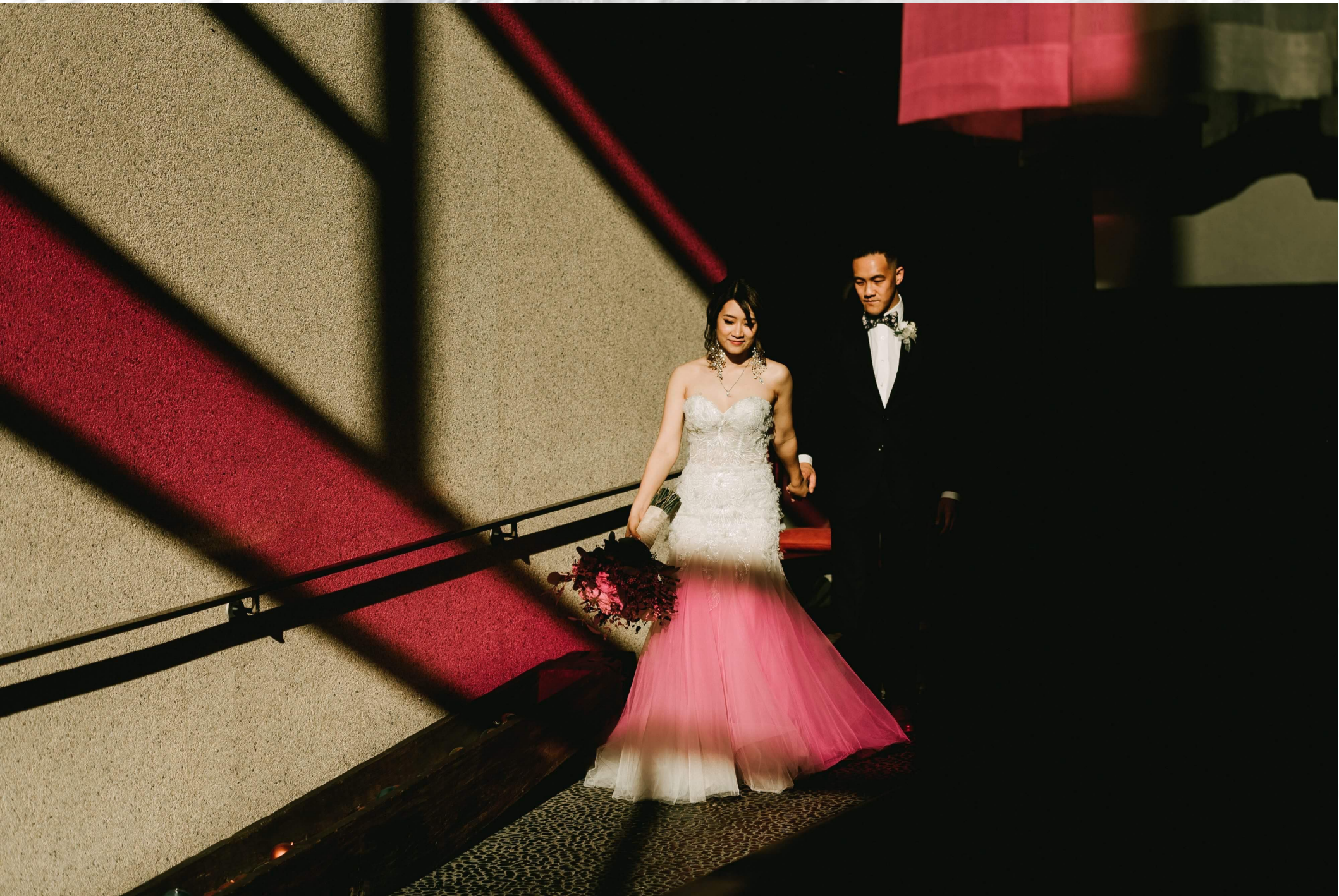








































# **WHEN I'M NOT WORKING, I LIKE TO:**

- **Spend time with my family, especially my son**
- **Watch TV and movies at home**
- **Watch musical theater and concerts**
- **Visit museums**
- **Do a Staycation**
- **Go to Disneyland**
- **Plan personal trips and EXPLORE**

# DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN?

If I could talk to my high school self, what would I say?

- 1) Do not second-guess yourself.**
- 2) Be resilient.**
- 3) Change is inevitable.**
- 4) Success is relative.**



# Q&A TIME!

[www.wanderlustcreatives.com](http://www.wanderlustcreatives.com)

Instagram: [@wanderlustcreatives](https://www.instagram.com/wanderlustcreatives)

Instagram (personal): [@gaile\\_wanderlust](https://www.instagram.com/gaile_wanderlust)