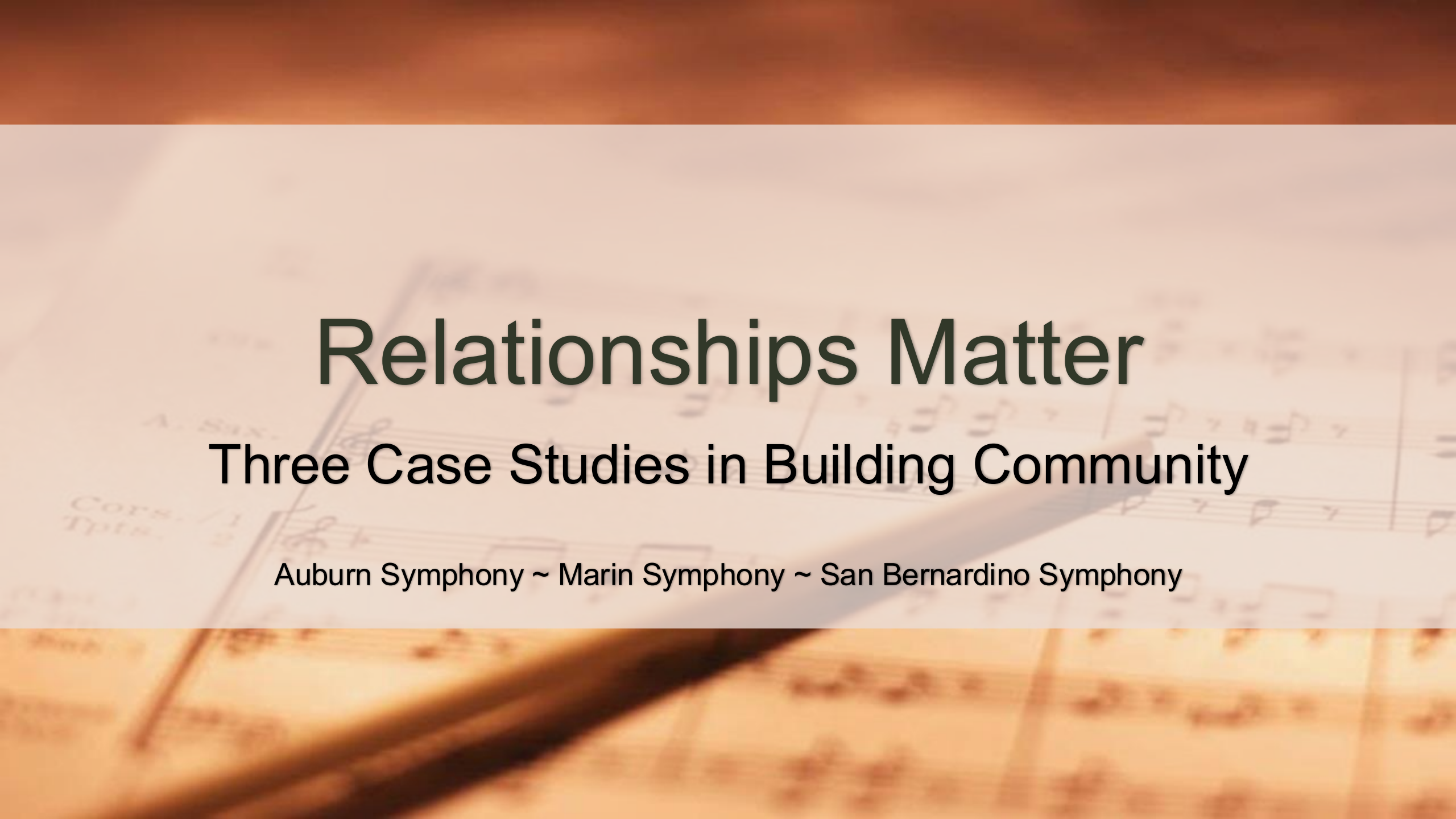


The background of the slide is a warm, orange-toned image of a musical score. A pencil is positioned diagonally across the center, pointing towards the bottom right. The score itself is out of focus, showing various musical notations and staves.

Relationships Matter

Three Case Studies in Building Community

Auburn Symphony ~ Marin Symphony ~ San Bernardino Symphony



Symphony Under the Sky

case study in
building community

Anne Brown & Laura Ritchie

Auburn and the Auburn Symphony

Founded in 1988, Placer County's premier **community orchestra** is led by Maestro Ryan Murray, and today boasts approximately 70 dedicated volunteer musicians in the region.

Residents value art, culture, and land conservation.

Sierra Nevada Foothills, Endurance Capital, between SF and Tahoe





Symphony Under the Sky: An Overview

Free event that combines land preservation and live classical music.

Hiking through land preserve, encountering several chamber ensembles. Reconnecting at the main meadow as a gathering place.



The Origin Story

In 2023, a partnership begins with the **Placer Land Trust**.

Core Partners

Auburn Symphony, Placer Land Trust, Arts Council of Placer County

Benefits: Funding opportunities, donor awareness, social media campaigns

Community Collaborators

Briarpatch Food Co-Op
Placer High School Art Department

Benefits: Economic impact, youth professional development, increased awareness



Resource Management

delegate, delegate, delegate!



Location

PLT. Laursen Bear
River Preserve trail
and parking
meadows



Musician Ensembles

AS. Four ensembles
on the trail, one in
the meadow



Volunteers

Shared lists of
organization
volunteers to
source 30+
positions



Production

Shared internal
documents, regular
meetings, site walk
through



Musician Testimony

As one of the musicians, there's novelty in getting to play in such an informal setting. I think the attendees felt that magic too! Especially as a trail lover, this is such a unique and delightful experience. It's fun to have that crossover with our attendees.

Emily Svendsen, violist

I like the event! We get fed lunch, lots of families park their camping chairs and listen to our pop arrangements. Super cute. Overall I enjoy the event.

Paolo Reyes, violinist

What We've Learned

- **Communication is key:** Address issues quickly, acknowledge misaligned expectations, clarify roles, always debrief to improve future events. Transparency builds long term trust.
- **Musician Feedback:** First year we learned to bring bug spray, artistic freedom in repertoire, make it an event they love participating in!
- **Stay rooted** in your mission. Avoid project creep.



What We've Learned (Continued)

Risks

- Excessive heat
- Rain
- Fire/Smoke
- Parking (mud, accessibility, limitations)

Contingencies

- Always have a “Rain” date
- Pre-write cancellation/rescheduling communications for attendees beforehand
- Have quick contact lists for vendors, volunteers, musicians, all staff to provide timely updates.



Ideas for Growth & How to continue to highlight these community connections

- Continue seeking new grants from local and state foundations, gov't agencies, and philanthropic individuals
- Increase local business sponsorship opportunities (invite and make sure that they attend!)
- Invite public and community leaders
- Include future youth chamber ensembles via partnerships
- Analyze data, utilize promo codes and surveys





**Thank you for
listening!**

Anne Brown & Laura Ritchie



MARIN SYMPHONY

A. Sax.
Corns. / 1
Tpts. 2

Tod Brody
Executive Director



Radical *Reciprocity*

The San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra
and San Bernardino Valley College Partnership

Our Partnership



SAN BERNARDINO
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

 San Bernardino
Valley College

Working In *Harmony*



THE LEADERSHIP BRIDGE

Deep personal trust and historical ties between executive leadership.

OVERLAPPING BOARDS

Joint commitment to the cultural and educational health of our community.

CO-AUTHORING SUCCESS

Working as trusted friends to navigate administrative hurdles together.

INSTITUTIONAL ALIGNMENT

Ensuring both organizations pull in the same direction at the highest level.

SummerFest



ONE EVENT, TWO INSTITUTIONS:

- **Goal:** Regional celebration and student recruitment
- **Partnership:** Artistic vision + college outreach
- **Execution:** One team, shared planning
- **Result:** One seamless, high-impact regional event

How Music Opens *The Door to College*



A WEEKLY CAMPUS PRESENCE

Young musicians and their families come to Valley College for rehearsals and concerts.

COLLEGE BECOMES FAMILIAR

Regular visits help families feel comfortable navigating a college campus.

STUDENTS SEE THEMSELVES IN COLLEGE

Early exposure makes higher education feel more welcoming and attainable.

A STRONGER FUTURE PIPELINE

The partnership cultivates future community leaders, musicians, and arts supporters.



Your Playbook *For Partnership*

1

START WITH SHARED GOALS

Align the symphony's strengths with the college's community priorities.

2

BRING PARTNERS IN EARLY

Give college leaders and staff a real role in shaping the work.

3

SHARE THE RESOURCES

Combine marketing, outreach, facilities, and funding where possible, while treating operations and marketing teams as creative partners.

4

BUILD FOR MUTUAL VALUE

Build programs that strengthen both institutions and outlast leadership changes.



The Result:

A Shared Ecosystem

SYMPHONY

- Regional outreach
- Audience development
- Student recruitment

COLLEGE

- Campus activation
- Community engagement
- Access to the arts

SHARED IMPACT

- Stronger community connections
- Greater regional visibility
- Lasting institutional partnership



Questions? Contact Us!

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