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The Girl Who Ran: Bobbi Gibb Statue to be Unveiled in April

The Foundation's goal to honor Bobbi Gibb, the first woman to run the Boston Marathon, has exceeded the second and final stage of its fundraising objectives, Foundation president Tim Kilduff announced recently, and a bronze statue of Bobbi will be installed in downtown Hopkinton just prior to the 2020 Boston Marathon in April.

This second phase, whose goal was \$26,200, brought in more than \$32,000, thanks in part to Bobbi's family and campaign guidance by [Charity Team's](#) Susan Hurley. The statue, sculpted by Bobbi herself (*shown*), is being cast now by Buccaccio Sculpture Services of Canton, Mass.



More about Bobbi's pioneering story can be found in [The Girl Who Ran](#), whose publisher, Compendium, is donating signed copies of the book to those Crowdrise donors who contributed \$100 (*illustration from book, above*). Find out more about Bobbi's epic 1966 run and the sculpture project [here](#) and [here](#).

And, listen to a brand-new *Boston Herald* podcast [here](#), in which the Foundation details the history of the project.

Apply Now: 'Team Inspire' Bibs for Boston Going Fast



As we write this, approximately 50 of the Foundation's 65 invitational entries for the 2020 Boston Marathon have been spoken for, with runners from as far afield as the UK, Singapore, Hong Kong and Indonesia selected to represent 'Team Inspire'. In return for the bibs, team runners have been asked to donate or fund-raise, with proceeds earmarked for the Foundation's signature project, the development and construction of an

International Marathon Center (IMC) in Hopkinton, MA. Team runners whose applications are accepted will get a special program of services to assist in their training and preparation. Details and applications at www.26-2.org.

The IMC: It Takes a Village

Those who follow us – all of you, hopefully! – know that the creation of an International Marathon Center (*right*) is a premier project and a top priority for us. It's also a staggering amount of work. We'd like to take a minute to recognize the incredibly high-caliber team that is generously giving its time to lead our development proposal: Andy Deschenes of [DMSE Sports](#); Regan Harrold of [Beals +Thomas](#); Steve Lewis and Scott Richardson of [GRL Architects](#); Roy MacDowell of [Baystone Development](#); Nick Slottje of [Charlesbank Realty](#); and 26.2 board member Joe Baldiga of [Mirick O'Connell](#). A special shout-out, too, to Doug Stark, museum director of the [International Tennis Hall of Fame](#) in Newport, RI, who is also giving unstintingly of his time and expertise. Thank you all for your support.



Distance Training -- for Life

We like to say that there's more to a marathon than running 26.2 miles – it takes discipline, training, fitness, commitment, passion, and so much more. That approach is embodied in the Hopkinton Middle School's 'Hiller Block 5K Class', an elective gym course run by physical education teacher Deb Pinto, where 8th-graders learn how to properly train for distance running. The class, which teaches running form, endurance, safety, use of technology and more, culminates in a 5K race, held this semester on November 14th. All 115 students in the class completed the race. The 26.2 Foundation provided the custom color bibs and t-shirts; Foundation board member Stephanie Whelan coordinated the race volunteers.

The 26.2 Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with a mission to promote and support the sport of marathoning, as well as health, wellness and economic-development initiatives through investments in innovative programs on local, regional, national and global levels.



The 26.2 Foundation
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