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“The Girl Who Ran” Tells Inspiring Story of First Woman to Run Boston Marathon

New children’s illustrated title celebrates Bobbi Gibb and her historic race.

SEATTLE (June 15, 2017) — In 1966, the world believed it was impossible for a woman to run the Boston Marathon and Bobbi Gibb proved them wrong. Compendium is honored to announce the release of “The Girl Who Ran”, an illustrated children’s book based on Gibb’s journey to become the first woman to run Boston Marathon.

The book begins with Gibb as a young girl with a relentless desire to run “like the wind in the fire.” A visit to the Boston Marathon with her father ignited her dream to take part in the race. But her application was rejected by the Boston Athletic Association which informed her that women were incapable of running the marathon distance of 26.2 miles. People worried she would cause herself serious injury and thought that she was mentally ill. She proved them wrong and finished the race ahead of about half the men who were running, with a time of 3:21:40.

Authors Frances Poletti and Kristina Yee worked to bring Gibb’s story to life. Illustrator Susanna Chapman visited the Boston Marathon and sketched runners, capturing the spirit and community of the race. A timeline on the back of the book gives a history on the Boston Marathon and the increasing number of women who joined each year. “The Girl Who Ran” celebrates the achievement of women in sport.

The book offers an empowering message about breaking through challenges, realizing what you’re capable of, and striving for your goals. “The advice I give to young people about shaping the future is to follow your dreams and do what you most passionately feel like doing,” says Gibb. Compendium hopes to inspire a new generation of trailblazers with “The Girl Who Ran.” This title is scheduled to be released summer 2017.

Title: The Girl Who Ran
Authors: Frances Poletti & Kristina Yee
Publisher: Compendium
ISBN: 9781943200474

Release date: June 1, 2017
Illustrator: Susanna Chapman
Retail price: \$16.95

About Compendium, Inc.:

Since 1985, Compendium has turned everyday items into extraordinary gifts, and everyday occasions into memorable events. The Seattle-based company creatively combines fresh, vibrant design with thoughtful and inspiring words to create gift books, journals, greeting cards, stationery, and desk accessories sold online and in thousands of specialty gift stores nationwide. Their products celebrate the best parts of the human spirit and highlight what it truly means to live inspired. For more information about Compendium, visit their website at live-inspired.com.