
The U.S. National Arboretum presents eight hybrid magnolia cultivars affectionately known as the "girls." These selections offer a spectacular floral display approximately two weeks later than *M. stellata* and *M. ×soulangeana*, thus decreasing the possibility of spring frost damage. The flowers are doubly delightful! They welcome spring in shades of pink to purple and later surprise you with occasional summer blooms. Plants grow as multi-stemmed large shrubs or small trees bearing slightly leathery leaves that stand up well to summer heat and drought. Winter reveals an attractive branch structure that is highlighted by smooth, gray bark and fuzzy flower buds. In every season, these "girls" embellish the landscape.
**Botanical name:** *Magnolia liliiflora* ‘Nigra’ × *Magnolia stellata* ‘Rosea’:
- ‘Ann’ (NA 28344; PI 326570)
- ‘Betty’ (NA 28348; PI 326574)
- ‘Judy’ (NA 28345; PI 326571)
- ‘Randy’ (NA 28346; PI 326572)
- ‘Ricki’ (NA 28347; PI 326573)
- ‘Susan’ (NA 28350; PI 326575)

*Magnolia liliiflora* ‘Reflorescens’ × *Magnolia stellata* ‘Waterlily’:
- ‘Jane’ (NA 28349; PI 326576)

*Magnolia liliiflora* ‘Reflorescens’ × *Magnolia stellata* ‘Rosea’:
- ‘Pinkie’ (NA 28351; PI 326577)

**Family:** Magnoliaceae

**Hardiness:** USDA Zones 3b to 8

**Development:**
The "girl" magnolias are selections resulting from controlled crosses between one of two *Magnolia liliiflora* cultivars (‘Nigra’ and ‘Reflorescens’) and one of two *Magnolia stellata* cultivars (‘Rosea’ and ‘Waterlily’). The crosses were made at the U.S. National Arboretum in 1955 and 1956 by William F. Kosar and Dr Francis de Vos. All are F1 hybrids and are reported to be sterile, triploid selections. These plants were selected and named by William F. Kosar; the names honor William Kosar’s daughter (‘Betty’), four daughters of Francis de Vos (‘Ann’, ‘Judy’, ‘Randy’, and ‘Ricki’), the daughter of Arboretum director Henry T. Skinner (‘Susan’), and the wife of Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman (‘Jane’). The owner of the nickname ‘Pinkie’ evidently wished to remain anonymous. Released 1968.

**Significance:**
These magnolia selections bloom two to four weeks later than *M. stellata* and *M. ×soulangeana*, reducing the likelihood of late spring frost damage. Plants produce flowers with a variety of tepal colors, from reddish-purple to pink-and-white. The sporadic summer bloom adds landscape interest.

**Culture:**
Plants grow best in full sun to light shade; they prefer loam soil with adequate moisture, and tolerate both poorly drained, heavy clay soils and dry areas.

**Propagation:**
Root from semi-hardwood cuttings, under mist, following 4000 ppm IBA quick dip treatment; roots develop in 8 weeks.

**Landscape use:**
Specimen plant or mass planting in open recreation areas, industrial parks, or in the home garden. Site plants to accentuate floral display, silvery gray bark, multi-stemmed habit, and winter architecture; a dark backdrop, such as an evergreen tree, will show these features to best advantage.

**Availability:**
Readily available from mail-order firms and retail and wholesale nurseries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultivar</th>
<th>Time of flowering</th>
<th>Flower size and num. of tepals</th>
<th>Flower color</th>
<th>Height and width</th>
<th>Habit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>‘Ann’</td>
<td>Early</td>
<td>To 4&quot; diameter; 6-8 tepals</td>
<td>Red-purple; red-purple tint inside</td>
<td>10-12’ tall; to 15’ wide</td>
<td>Compact, multi-stemmed shrub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Betty’</td>
<td>Midseason</td>
<td>To 8&quot; diameter; 12-18 tepals</td>
<td>Greyed-purple at base shading to red-purple at apex; white inside</td>
<td>15’ tall; 17-21’ wide</td>
<td>Rounded, multi-stemmed large shrub</td>
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<tr>
<td>‘Jane’</td>
<td>Late</td>
<td>3.5-4&quot; diameter; 8-10 broad tepals, fragrant</td>
<td>Red-purple at the base grading to light red-purple at apex outside; white inside</td>
<td>20-25’ tall; to 20’ wide</td>
<td>Multi-stemmed small tree; often taller than wide</td>
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<tr>
<td>‘Judy’</td>
<td>Midseason</td>
<td>2-3” diameter; 10 tepals</td>
<td>Red-purple outside; creamy white inside</td>
<td>7-9’ tall; 8-13’ wide</td>
<td>Erect, rounded shrub</td>
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<tr>
<td>‘Pinkie’</td>
<td>Late</td>
<td>5-7” diameter; 9-12 broad tepals</td>
<td>Pale red-purple approaching pink at maturity; white inside</td>
<td>10-11’ tall; 20’ wide</td>
<td>Rounded, multi-stemmed large shrub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Randy’</td>
<td>Midseason</td>
<td>3.5-5” diameter; 9-11 tepals</td>
<td>Red-purple outside; white inside</td>
<td>10-11’ tall; 16-17’ wide</td>
<td>Rounded, multi-stemmed large shrub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Ricki’</td>
<td>Midseason</td>
<td>4-6” diameter; 10-15 tepals, often twisted</td>
<td>Red-purple outside; white or stained purple inside</td>
<td>10-11’ tall; 16’ wide</td>
<td>Rounded, multi-stemmed large shrub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Susan’</td>
<td>Midseason</td>
<td>4-6” diameter; 6 tepals, twisted; slightly fragrant</td>
<td>Deep red-purple; red-purple inside</td>
<td>12-15’ tall; to 15’ wide</td>
<td>Fairly upright, multi-stemmed small tree</td>
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</tbody>
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