

What is MAGNOLIA?

MAGNOLIA was established during the 1997 legislative session and implemented in August 1997 under the auspices of the Council on Educational Technology. The Mississippi Legislature appropriated funds for the purchase of databases on behalf of the publicly funded libraries (K-12 school libraries, public libraries, community college libraries, university and state agency libraries) in the state of Mississippi.

The mission of MAGNOLIA is to provide all citizens of Mississippi with free, online access to full text articles and research that can assist them with their educational, professional and life-long learning endeavors. Individuals needing access to the latest research or information on almost any topic can be accessed by searching the database provided by MAGNOLIA. Access is provided through public libraries and through public universities, community college and K-12 schools.

Without this statewide project, libraries— especially many smaller libraries—would not have the advantage of, nor the access to thousands of trusted, authoritative and reliable magazines, journals, and other information resources. MAGNOLIA represents a unique situation across the nation in that this was the first type of cooperative project/consortium that represented all types of libraries at the time the consortium was established.

MAGNOLIA provides equitable access to trusted, authoritative, and reliable magazines, journals, newspapers and other information sources not available through free search engines.

How is MAGNOLIA funded?

Since its inception, the Mississippi Legislature has provided funding in support of the MAGNOLIA project. Recognizing the broad impact MAGNOLIA has on Mississippi, in FY23 the legislature increased the appropriation for MAGNOLIA from \$1,000,000 to \$1,350,000.

MAGNOLIA provides libraries with free access to 43 databases, many of which they would have to subscribe to individually, in support of their constituents. By providing funding in support of MAGNOLIA, the Mississippi Legislature not only provides every publicly supported library with access to the same resources but also saves these same libraries thousands of dollars not to mention the cost savings to the State of Mississippi. To prove this point, the Steering Committee requested from our vendors a quote to see how much it would cost each of the university libraries, community college libraries, 4 public libraries and 7 high schools to subscribe to these databases individually. If these libraries subscribed to these databases, it would cost the State of Mississippi over \$3,515,095!

How is MAGNOLIA administered?

The project is administered by a Steering Committee made up of representatives from each of the types of libraries served by MAGNOLIA. Subcommittees are formed as needed to assist with database selection, implementation, training, publicity and evaluation. All Legislative funding is used to purchase databases.

How does MAGNOLIA help individuals in Mississippi?

The MAGNOLIA databases have been of great benefit to the citizens of Mississippi. MAGNOLIA has become a vital component in the education of Mississippi students and is now a significant part of many established curriculums. In addition to searching the databases in libraries, individuals can also access many of the electronic resources available through MAGNOLIA from their home or office computer. Interested researchers can contact their local library for the necessary access information and training.

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How Can You Help?

MAGNOLIA is supported by funding from the Mississippi Legislature. Please let your local legislative members know what the MAGNOLIA project means to your school, libraries and patrons. This is probably the single most important thing you can do to support MAGNOLIA.

You can also assist in spreading the word about MAGNOLIA. Please be sure to talk to your teachers and encourage them to incorporate the MAGNOLIA products into their teaching. Talk to other librarians in your area to be sure they are using MAGNOLIA and encourage them to do so if they are not using these products.

MAGNOLIA Databases

The following is a list of select databases provided through MAGNOLIA. These databases contain thousands of full-text articles. In total, MAGNOLIA provides access to 43 online databases from EBSCO, OCLC and Britannica.

EBSCO Databases

- Academic Search Premier
- Agricola
- Alt-HealthWatch
- Business Source Complete
- Consumer Health Complete
- Environment Complete
- Funk & Wagnalls New Encyclopedia
- Garden, Landscape & Horticulture Literature Index
- Health Source: Nursing & Academic Edition
- History Reference Center
- Hospitality/Tourism Complete
- Humanities International Complete
- Legal Collection
- Literary Reference Center
- Newspaper Source
- Novelist
- Primary Search
- Psychology & Behavioral Sciences
- Regional Business News
- Religion & Philosophy
- TopicSearch
- Vocational & Career Collection

Britannica Student

- Britannica Fundamentals (PreK - 2nd grade)
- Britannica School Elementary (Up to 5th grade)
- Britannica School Middle (5th through 8th grades)

OCLC

- FirstSearch/WorldCat

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MAGNOLIA

Visit the MAGNOLIA Website
<http://magnolia.lib.ms.us>