

Burnaby comic is off to visit New York City

By Christina Myers, staff reporter

Local comic Kimberley Beaudoin is gathering her courage for a trip to compete in the centre of the comedy universe - New York City.

She's not terribly nervous about getting up on stage, but the flight between here and there has her a bit frazzled.

"I am flying alone and yes, I don't like flying," says the comedienne who's been making waves on Vancouver stages for several years and has appeared on the WTN show *She's So Funny*.

"I swore I'd never fly again ... never swear!"

She's willing to swallow her fear for a chance at what she calls a "childhood dream."

"New York has been a life-long dream for of mine, ever since I was little and I'd watch Spiderman. I actually thought it was a fictitious place until I was older and found out that it was real.

"My passion for New York is so tremendous, for me this is an opportunity like the Olympics for some. I'm actually calling it the 'comedy Olympics' because either you're funny or you're not and that crowd will let you know in a hurry, I'm sure."

She says she can't wait to "show the American folks us Canadian comics are just as funny" and see how her material goes over with audiences in the Big Apple.

She's also eager to get a gander at the place she's imagined visiting for so long.

"I hate to sound touristy, but I just can't wait to lay my eyes on the Statue of Liberty - just landing in New York will be an amazing moment for me.

"I think there's something for me in New York. I just don't know what it is yet, but I can't wait to find out. I kind of feel like I belong there."

As a single mom, Beaudoin admits that making a career out of comedy has been a challenge. But she also says that she's been encouraged by the "immense support" of her friends and fans.

Now, she says, she needs support south of the border.

"I need people to come down and cheer on this Canadian comic. If the fine folks of Burnaby know anyone in New York, you can have them come down and support a funny gal from Burnaby, B.C." She says anyone who mentions that they read about her in the Burnaby NOW will receive a "surprise."

She'll be competing on Thursday, Sept. 23 at the New York Comedy Club at 241 East 24th St., showtime at 9 p.m.

She's also hoping to find local sponsorship from various businesses.

To see her website, including a journal which she'll be updating while away, see www.kimberleyscomedycorner.com.