An annotated Amazon list of supplies
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1NUGO9RZWJEU0?ref_=wl_share

Linear actuator (make sure you get the option that includes the stepper motor)
https://openbuildspartstore.com/c-beam-linear-actuator-bundle/

This is the raspberry pi kit that I got.
https://www.canakit.com/raspberry-pi-4-starter-kit.html

There are other Pi retailers listed at the bottom of this page:
https://www.raspberrypi.com/products/raspberry-pi-4-model-b/

If Rasp Pi are perpetually sold out when you are looking, here is website and twitter page which tracks when/where new batches are released:
https://rpilocator.com/

https://twitter.com/rpilocator

To connect the stepper motor wires to the arduino using the terminal connectors (on Amazon list), wrap the metal parts around the exposed wire using a wire crimper, then push that down into the plastic housing. Here a youtube video. I did not have all the same fancier tools that they use, just a wire crimper and it worked fine:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jET1QTP1B7c&t=287s


Github page with manual and software:
https://github.com/CambiumRG/CaptuRING

Video tutorials are linked from this publication. These are incredibly helpful:
https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1125786522001011

Stepper motor calculator:
https://blog.prusa3d.com/calculator_3416/

I tried several free options for image stitching and truly none came close to the quality and ease of use of PTgui. Worth the investment.

https://ptgui.com/

General Notes:

Get the photo enlarger base if you can find one, and if you do, please let me know where!
Possible option:
https://www.amazon.com/ALZO-Tabletop-Studio-Product-Photography/dp/B07K4RG3RX/ref=as

We use an older Nikon DSLR (D5100) with macro lens and ring light attachment. Serious upgrades can be made here, but the photo quality is very good regardless

A wireless mouse/keyboard combo with 1 USB receiver will negate the need to buy a USB hub for the raspberry pi